

In colour: **RANGERS** team group

SHOOT!

18p

25th NOVEMBER, 1978

Everton full-back Mike
Pejic on the ball at
Goodison Park against
Wolves.

**JOHAN
CRUYFF**

Millionaire
with problems

Exclusive Feature

Big Match Crosstalk:

**Liverpool v.
Man. City**

Players' Preview —

**U.E.F.A.
Cup Round Three**

GOLDEN GOALS



LOCAL football magazine "Soccer Reporter" has offered £1,000 to the first player to score 26 goals in this term's League of Ireland campaign. Note: Brendan Bradley, then with Finn Harps, scored 29 goals in 1975/76 when there were only 26 games, four less than there are this season.

Last season's leading scorer, Tur-lough O'Connor (above, Bohemians) must be favourite to capture the prize. He has already bagged four goals in the first five games.

McGrath to move?

MANCHESTER United's £30,000 1976-77 wing capture from Tottenham, Chris McGrath, could soon be on the move again.

The 23-year-old Ulsterman, who burst on the big-time scene in 1973-74 as a teenage sensation with Spurs, for whom he totalled 38 League appearances before joining United, has played in just over 20 senior games in his two-year spell at Old Trafford.

Obviously, the 18-times-capped Northern Ireland international, who spent part of 1975-76 on loan to then promotion-clinching Millwall, would prefer first team football, and with several club bosses keen on securing the Belfast-born McGrath, he could be in the transfer spotlight in the near future.

NEWS DESK

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



IT'S certainly proved third time lucky for winger Kevin Tully. Given a free transfer by Blackpool in 1974, he was allowed to leave Cambridge United and then teamed up with Crewe — the club that really put him on his feet.

A series of impressive performances for the Gresty Road outfit alerted Port Vale.

But the Burslem club were forced to strike a hard bargain to get him. The fee may have been only £8,000 but Vale had to include experienced right-back Neil Wilkinson in the deal as well. And 25-year-old Tully celebrated by scoring for his new club on his debut in the 3-0 success at Halifax.

FACTastic

BRIGHTON made a disastrous start to their first-ever season in Division Two (1958-59). They were beaten 9-0 at Middlesbrough. In the return match at Brighton, Boro won 6-4. Brian Clough has pleasant memories of those two victories with a total of eight goals — five in the first game and three in the second. Brian's final League total that season was 43 goals!



Chairman orders 'STOP STOCKPORT SPENDING'

STOCKPORT County's impressive start to the season is due in no small measure to the fact player-manager Mike Summerbee (above) has had the cash to assemble something like half-a-team since the end of last season.

But now chairman Freddie Pye has warned the spending has to stop and County will have to prune their bills.

The arrivals at Edgeley Park of strikers Les Bradd (from Notts County) and Stuart Lee (from Wrexham), plus Jimmy Goodfellow (from Rotherham), Phil Edwards (Oldham) and Phil Henson (from Sparta Rotterdam) have given Summerbee a new springboard for success.

After narrowly missing the ignominy of having to apply for re-

election last season, County are moving in the right direction, and that signing of Henson for £11,000 from Dutch football showed the ambition in the camp.

It meant £40,000 had been spent on four players and the reward has been a string of good results especially on home territory.

But the Henson coup was followed by these words from Freddie Pye: "That's it — now we have to get rid of players who haven't fitted in. Our wage bill has to be put into perspective."

One player you can guarantee won't be leaving is full-back John Rutter who recently chalked up his 100th successive League game for the club, beating a 12-year record set up by Billy Haydock.



JIM Cumbes (above) is back in soccer with Worcester City, the Southern League club with Football League aspirations.

Cumbes has been out of soccer for several months as he has decided to concentrate upon his cricket career with Worcestershire.

The move to Worcester fits in well with his cricket duties and he hopes to remain at St. George's Lane.

The Cumbes case, however, highlights the problems of players who drift away to play in America. They are out of the limelight and tend to become forgotten when, as in the case of Cumbes, can still do a good job for a lot of clubs.

'Non playing' Captains

NOT one of the five players who skipped England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire in the recent European Championship was in his club's first team the previous Saturday.

Emlyn Hughes (England) played for Liverpool reserves... Archie Gemmill (Scotland) was dropped by Forest... Leighton Phillips (Wales) was sub. for Aston Villa and Allan Hunter (Northern Ireland) and Paddy Mulligan (Eire) were both injured.

THE FOOTBALL APPRENTICES ~A New Play

THE goal of many youngsters is to become a professional footballer. For the boys signed by a League club from school their target is in sight... the soccer world is almost at their feet.

Until their 18th birthday they are

apprentices... then comes the big moment. Will they be offered full professional terms... or told to find another job?

To find out about THE FOOTBALL APPRENTICES I suggest you see David

Holman's new play which is on until 2nd December at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, London, E.15. Box office: Tel: 01-534 0310.



Author David Holman (front row, far left) and actors from the play with the apprentices of Orient F.C. The East London club helped with the research for the production.

TWO FOURS



PLAYERS and fans could be excused for seeing double during the Arsenal v. Southampton League match at High-bury last month.
After the interval two Arsenal players

appeared wearing number four shirts. Steve Gattling (left) changed his number five shirt during half-time and picked up number four by mistake.

Soon after the restart, referee M. J. Taylor from Deal, Kent, noticed the error and ordered Gattling to change. Arsenal won 1-0, of course.

FORMER Derry City, Finn Harps and Northern Ireland amateur international cap Jim Smith is currently in his second spell with Coleraine.

The experienced striker, who hit The Bannside's 1975 Irish F.A. Cup-winning goal v. Linfield, also won an Eire F.A. Cup winners' medal with Finn Harps, the previous term, plus an I.F.A. Cup runners-up honour with Derry City, in 1971.

ATTRACTING a great deal of attention in the Second Division these days is Charlton striker Martin Robinson, signed from Spurs towards the end of last season.

When Derek Hales recovers from his groin injury manager Andy Nelson is unlikely to leave him in the reserves.

If Martin has to make way for Hales Charlton can expect inquiries from other clubs, including West Ham who have several players to offer in exchange.

John Richards will not be rushing back for Wolves

JOHN Richards (right), the former England striker, is prepared not to play again this season — if it means he can safeguard his soccer career.

The Wolves striker has a knee injury which has not responded to treatment as quickly as it should have done.

In the circumstances Richards is sidelined at a period when Wolves badly need his services.

Richards said: "I've heard all these rumours I'm finished as a First Division player, but I have no intention of quitting."

"In fact, I am still hoping to be back in action as soon as possible. But if it means staying out of the Football League side for a little longer then this is what I am prepared to do to safeguard my career."



JACK GOT HIS MAN — AT LAST



JACK Charlton, the Sheffield Wednesday manager and former Leeds and England centre-half, has finally got his man. He paid out £60,000 to Southampton for Mike Pickering (left), a defender he has admired since he appeared for Barnsley as a teenager.

Pickering, who moved from Barnsley to Southampton in May, last year, was 20 at that time — and had already topped the 100 appearance mark for the Oakwell club.

SUPERMAC 'TRANSFERRED'

MALCOLM Macdonald, Arsenal's leading scorer for the past two seasons, has agreed to play in a very special friendly match for United Counties League Premier Division club Eynesbury Rovers on Sunday, December 3.

Eynesbury hope Macdonald's presence, along with that of former Rovers player Chris Turner of Luton, will earn enough on the turnstiles to wipe out a sizeable chunk of the £5,000 they owe following an unusual accident at their ground.

Four years ago a local boy was injured while riding on a groundsman's tractor. His family took legal action against the club and groundsman and the matter was eventually settled out of court. But Eynesbury face the threat of extinction if they fail to reduce their bill.

Their team will play a Showbiz All-Stars XI, which will include Michael Crawford (Frank Spencer) and David Hamilton, at The Hall Memorial Ground, Eynesbury, kick-off 3pm.

HEARTS "new boy" Derek O'Connor, signed from St. Johnstone for £30,000 had a "dream debut" against Aberdeen at Pittodrie in the Premier Division. Derek's first kick of the ball, gave Hearts a 50 second lead, and the Edinburgh side ended up with the satisfaction of a 2-1 victory. Hearts' second goal was scored by another newcomer this season, Dennis McQuade, the former Partick Thistle player.

PETERBOROUGH have been chasing Millwall striker John Mitchell. He's available at £100,000 — the same fee the club paid Fulham for their 1975 F.A. Cup Final star.

Leicester eye Tibbott

IPSWICH defender Les Tibbott would like a move because his first team chances at Portman Road are limited. One interested club? Leicester, still struggling to find their form in the Second Division this season under new manager Jock Wallace.

APOLOGY

I apologise for the failure to print columns from Ray Wilkins and Gordon Hill, and Spotlight on Rangers in this issue. It is due to circumstances beyond my control.

David Gregory, Editor.

UNDER FIRE

RANGERS players are under fire from the terracing as a result of two incidents in successive weeks. First, Eric Morris was hit by a pellet while playing for the reserves against Celtic at Parkhead.

The following week wee Tommy McLean sustained a thigh wound during the second-half of the game against St Mirren at Love Street, Paisley. It is thought McLean was hit by a stone thrown from the crowd. After treatment he was able to continue playing.

NEWCASTLE recently made bids for West Brom's Scotland winger Willie Johnston and Orient's Eire international defender Tony Grealish.

Albion wanted too much for unsettled Johnston, while Grealish is not for sale.

Kevin Keegan

Super-Clown



At a special presentation at the Post House Hotel, Heathrow, recently, Kevin Keegan modelled the outfits he hopes the best-dressed sportsmen will be wearing after the launch of his sportswear company. Most of the outfits come under the "unisex" classification, and Kevin was assisted by tall, beautiful, 22-year-old Jan Kennerly of Leeds. And they're all the statistics we've got, folks! Kevin is renowned for his ability to "climb" above defences to head goals, but he needed the help of a chair to show Jan who's boss!

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Ricardo Villa, the
Argentinian ace who now
plays for Spurs.

Jim Greene, who
regularly turns out for
his school team.

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THE INK has only just dried on a piece of paper that spells trouble for First Division defenders.

It's a contract that ties super-striker Paul Mariner to Ipswich Town for the next six years and ends any speculation he might be on the move from Portman Road.

"Forget it," says 25-year-old Mariner, the player who left Plymouth Argyle two years ago in a record-breaking £240,000 deal that launched him into the soccer big-time.

"I love it here at Ipswich," he says, "and now I've signed a new long-term contract I hope all the transfer talk will end."

"I've pledged myself to Ipswich for the next six years because I believe in the club, in Bobby Robson and in the other players around me."

"I read the papers like everyone else and saw I was being linked with all the top clubs. But what people seem to be forgetting is I'm already with a top club!"

Mariner, a late arrival to the professional game, has shot to stardom in a short space of time. Within a few weeks of his move to Ipswich he was in the England squad and last season he won an F.A. Cup medal.

"I'm a great believer in self-analysis," he says. "I think long and hard about every game I play and I cannot escape the fact football has been very good to me."

"This applies to Ipswich in particular because joining up at Portman Road was the best move I ever made. And now I've got the security I was after, in the shape of a new contract, I'm looking for my form to improve."

Mariner, who was on target five times in his club's first nine League games, wants to increase his goal tally for two very important reasons.

"First, a few more goals would see us climb the League to what would be more like our proper position," he says. "And secondly I'm keen to keep the pressure on Bob Latchford for the England number nine shirt."

PAUL MARINER WILL NOT BE MOVED...



Paul Mariner (above, arm raised) after scoring another goal for Ipswich. The England striker (middle) watches as

Roger Osborne's shot goes in for Town's winning goal v. Arsenal in last term's F.A. Cup Final at Wembley.

"Sometimes, after a game, I go home and think about some of the chances I missed or some of the good saves the opposing 'keeper made and I'm sure taking a critical look at myself will help me."

"Finishing is what I'm working hardest at at the moment. It's not a question of confidence or anything like that. I just feel I'm capable of scoring a few more goals."

"I wouldn't bother too much if my outfield play wasn't anything special so long as I was doing the damage in front of goal. And I reckon most strikers feel exactly the same."

Mariner for England? "Obviously I'd love to be in the side," he smiles, "but I've no complaints whatsoever with Mr Greenwood because I doubt if there's a fairer man in football."

"He believes in keeping faith with the man in possession and that takes a lot of pressure off the player in question. And anyway, the England squad is just like a club squad now with everyone very friendly despite some keen competition for places."

Mariner is confident Ipswich can overcome their indifferent start to the campaign and he sees the European Cup-Winners' Cup as the sort of competition tailor-made for him and his mates.

"Look at us last season when we won the F.A. Cup," he reasons. "So disappointing in the League yet so convincing in the Cup right from the word go. I think we could do the same in Europe this time, although I was sent-off in the previous round against Innsbruck."

"It would be a bonus to win a European competition because it would help spread the name of the club all over the world. I'm all for that because many people on the Continent seem to think English football begins and ends with Liverpool and Manchester United."

"We've enough top-class players to have no need to fear any side, at home or abroad. And if I didn't believe that to be the case I wouldn't have signed away the next six years of my career."





Santa Ray with the European Cup, Christmas, 1977. Liverpool retained their Euro Crown by beating Bruges (again) at Wembley in the 1978 European Cup Final.



May, 1976... Liverpool have just beaten FC Bruges to win the U.E.F.A. Cup.

RAY CLEMENCE

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When England play, the Liverpool training ground is much quieter. Here are the five Reds who have been on duty with Ron Greenwood this season (from left): Ray Kennedy, Terry McDermott, Emlyn Hughes, Phil Neal and Ray.

Ray with the man who did so much to shape his career . . . the one and only Bill Shankly.

SCRAPBOOK

Ray and Geoff Hurst, one of Ron Greenwood's assistants, chat during an England training period. No doubt Clem is happier now he doesn't have to face Geoff in League action any more!



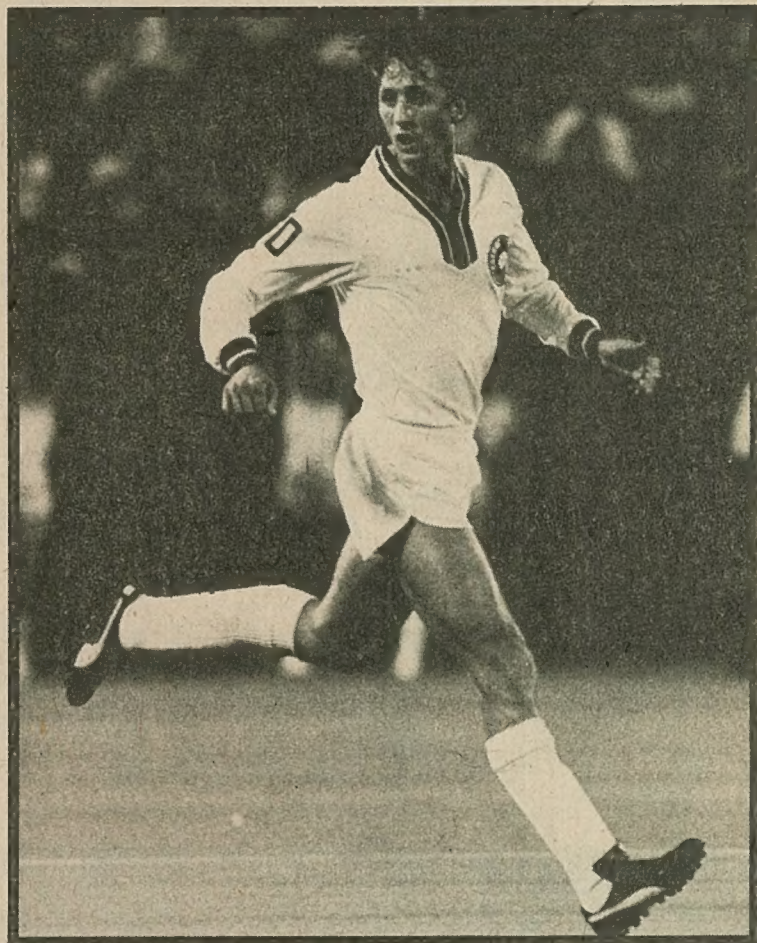
JOHAN CRUYFF —

A MILLIONAIRE WITH PROBLEMS

Will business failures force him to follow in Pelé's footsteps?

Pelé these days is always elegantly-dressed, careful with his words and exudes the bonhomie appropriate to a man well-versed in public relations. But if he now has the aura of a secure and successful businessman, it's entirely thanks to the Cosmos. By the time Pelé played his last game for Santos, his healthy earnings and lack of commercial expertise had already made him the perfect target for the sharks, and in next-to-no-time the footballer who'd given the world so much pleasure was facing bankruptcy. So the six zeros on the end of the multi-million dollar offer from fairy-godfather Cosmos represented an offer hard-pressed Pelé simply couldn't refuse.

Johan Cruyff, 31, played his last competitive game in Barcelona on May 7th, 1978. His earnings (over £1½m from FC Barcelona alone, plus enormous sums for publicity contracts) had vastly outstripped those of the great Pelé. But already there are alarming signs the sharks are circling, and the soccer world is beginning to wonder if Cruyff, like Pelé, will be forced to accept the Cosmos' offer of £1,000,000 a season to return to active football — a move so far he has adamantly refused to contemplate.



JOHAN'S problems came to light almost accidentally when news leaked out the Spanish taxman was chasing him for £700,000 (as reported in *World Wide* recently). The Dutch ace calmly insisted, according to the terms of his contract, FC Barcelona had to pay all his taxes, and he personally owed nothing.

But the club's new president, Josep Lluís Núñez, restored the taxes related to Cruyff's earnings outside football, plus fines arising from an incorrect return for 1977 (he declared income totalling £100,000) and emphasised the club certainly wasn't going to pay all that.

As Johan was in New York at the time — playing an exhibition match with the Cosmos — his business partner, Michel Basilevitch, was left to answer all the embarrassing questions, and suddenly the wall of silence which had hitherto surrounded Cruyff's business deals was brutally broken down.

In Paris, "France Football" accused Basilevitch of being implicated in illegally smuggling Johan's cash out of Spain, and the Frenchman admitted "there was

an incident in Customs, but it was my own money and not Johan Cruyff's."

Almost simultaneously, Spanish magazine "Interviú" published a searing attack on Basilevitch, unearthing a dubious business history; alleging he was a member of

the extortion branch of the Ben Barka Commando, founded on the death of De Gaulle; claiming he's "known to Interpol", and accusing him of bare-facedly muscling-in on the Cruyff millions... and misusing them to suit his own plans. Basilevitch enigmatically com-

ments: "half of what they say isn't true."

On his return from the United States, Johan stopped off in London to play for the Cosmos against Chelsea, then hurried to Madrid to give a Press conference in the International Press Club.

ABOVE...

Johan guesting for the Cosmos. Will he wear their strip regularly next year?

RIGHT...
Cruyff, Johan Neeskens and agent Cor Coster.



Alongside Basilevitch and his accountant Alonso Longinos, he gave evasive answers to a series of probing questions, but re-affirmed his complete faith in his business partner.

"It's true I've had a lot of bad friends in my business deals," he finally admitted, "but I'm gradually pruning them out. A lot of people have tried to live off my money, especially one ex-partner who's been trying to blackmail me."

"I could have him thrown out of the country tomorrow, but all the publicity would be disagreeable. Frankly, I was hoping people would leave me in peace once I'd retired, especially as I'm investing my money in Spain. I feel a moral obligation to support the country which has treated me so well."

Giving a concise description of the Dutchman's investments isn't easy at all. His interests range from property in Ibiza to a cattle farm in the Pyrenees, a gardening firm in Elche, a sweet factory and a vineyard in Rioja.

And with them came the problems. Up to the end of 1977, his finances had been largely masterminded by his father-in-law (an Amsterdam diamond merchant) Cor Coster. But, in view of his imminent retirement, Johan decided he wanted to "be his own man" and establish his own business interests.

His first move was to participate in a new company called CPB International (C for Cruyff, B for Basilevitch and P for a character named Pardo) to take over the running of a number of diverse companies held by an outfit called Grupeco.

What Johan *didn't* know was Pardo's companies were already in a bad way. Three months later, the banks called in their credit, and Grupeco was in really dire trouble. Johan hurriedly bought enough



ABOVE . . . Neeskens with Michel Basilevitch, Cruyff's business partner.

RIGHT . . . Barcelona supremo Josep Lluís Núñez — not paying Cruyff's taxes.

BELOW . . . Cruyff leaves Villa Park after his last competitive appearance in England.



shares to give himself and Basilevitch a majority shareholding; Señor Pardo was shown the door; and the name of the overall holding company became simply CB International.

"Grupeco isn't really operating at all at the moment," says Cruyff, "but at least we saved the company. Now we're trying to build up one of the companies in the group — a large industrialised cattle farm in Artesa de Segre in the Pyrenees called Ganadera Catalana. I think its production methods and standards of hygiene will soon make this farm one of the leading exporters in Europe."

All well and good, but to complete the installations at Ganadera Catalana, CB International has had to ask for bank loans totalling almost two million pounds. Neither Michel Basilevitch nor the past history of Grupeco gave the banks sufficient guarantees of credit-worthiness, so the dominant name on all the papers is none other than "millionaire" Cruyff. In short, there's a lot of cash at risk in a number of unproven companies.

Perhaps realising the dangers involved, Johan is keeping the Cosmos door ajar by trying to establish a commercial relationship with the team's owners, Warner Communications.

Basilevitch went to the States to invite them to take a financial interest in CB International but, after investigating the finances of the Cruyff "empire", Warner are reported to have turned the idea down flat.

What they have done, by all accounts, is to pay Johan £200,000 to sign a formal undertaking if he decides to return to active football, then the Cosmos will have the first option on his services.

Amid the rumours, the accusations and the blackmail, it remains to be seen whether Cruyff, after earning more than any other footballer in the history of the game, will be forced to follow in Pelé's footsteps while he's still young enough to return to active football.

At the moment, a lot depends on a cattle farm in the Pyrenees.

GRAHAM TURNER



THE HARDEST

THE U.E.F.A. Cup has one more round than the other two European Cup competitions. So while qualifiers for the next rounds in those take a rest until March, the U.E.F.A. survivors prepare for the first-legs of their Third-Round, to be played on Wednesday, November 22nd.

THE DRAW

AC MILAN v MANCHESTER CITY
VALENCIA v WEST BROM
RED STAR v ARSENAL
ESJBERG v HERTHA BERLIN
HONVED v AJAX
BOR. MÜNCHENGLADBACH v
SLASK WROCLAW
VfB STUTTGART v DUKLA
PRAGUE
STRASBOURG v MSV DUISBURG



West Brom's Ally Brown (second left) shoots towards goal against Sporting Braga in the previous round.



Manchester City lost 0-2 in Belgium, but beat Standard Liege 4-2 on aggregate.



Willie Young (left) chips in the Arsenal winner at Highbury against Hajduk Split.



JOHN WILE
(West Brom)

'NOT AFRAID OF FACING KEMPES'

IT'S a fabulous draw. Now we know we are in the big League playing against a side of the calibre of Valencia.

In fact, we can't wait for the games.

It's amazing how it has turned out. I remember watching Mario Kempes help Argentina win the World Cup on television in the summer and it never crossed my mind one day I would come up against him.

He's obviously a tremendous player. Now I'll have to pit my wits against him but I'm not afraid of the job. It's the sort of challenge I welcome.

Yet apart from the striking power of Kempes, Valencia also have the World Cup midfield skills of West German Rainer Bonhof. It's obvious they've got a team to be well respected but at the same time we've also got plenty to offer.

We've got a 100 per cent record after four games in Europe and we've been learning all the time. Obviously, this will be our biggest test but the experience of playing Turkish club Galatasaray and Portugal's Sporting Braga has helped.

We've got a lot of all round ability in the side and this season we've proved we can be a match for anyone — home and away. The balance is good and when it comes to goals we're no slouches. People like Tony Brown, Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham have been on form this season.

Sometimes, Continental sides with top class individuals don't always come off on the day. Obviously Valencia must be considered one of the best sides left in the competition but we're certainly not over-awed at the prospect.

EURO CUP TO WIN...



WILLIE YOUNG
(Arsenal)

'ANOTHER TOUGH TIE v. SLAVS'

I'M quietly confident we can advance another stage in the competition.

We've been drawn against Yugoslavian side Red Star, and the way we have been playing recently it's going to take a crack side to halt us.

It's been proved over the years the U.E.F.A. Cup is the hardest to win. The competition possibly contains the most consistent sides in Europe, whereas in the Cup-Winners' Cup, a team from a lower Division can qualify.

Hajduk Split, our opponents in the previous round, were also from Yugoslavia and what tough opposition they turned out to be.

We travelled to Split for the first leg, losing 2-1 to a very good side. We didn't intend playing defensively but were forced to when they attacked us from the start.

But we didn't surrender. We kept on playing and were rewarded for our efforts when Liam Brady scored the all-important away goal.

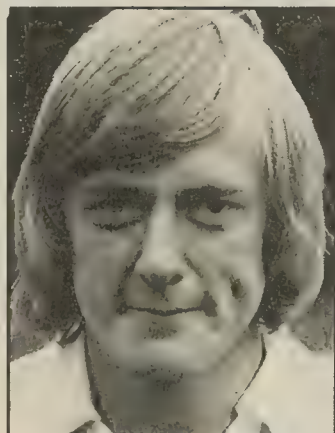
The return at Highbury was in complete contrast to the game in Split. They were very fierce in the tackle.

Three players were sent-off in the game, including my team-mate Chippy Brady.

But the longer the game went on the more I knew we were going to win.

A 1-0 victory would take us through and you need no reminding who scored that decider. It was possibly the most important goal of my career.

Our first game against Red Star is likely to be just as tough. But if we can approach it in similar fashion I'm sure we can get the right result.



PETER BARNES
(Manchester City)

'ITALIANS HIGHLY SKILLED'

IAM really looking forward to our clashes with AC Milan. I have had many battles with the Italians over recent seasons — both for club and country — and I know what they are capable of.

They are highly skilled players, but also very temperamental. If things are going well for them they shine like jewels but if they are down they resort to rough tactics.

But we will know what to expect and City will be going all out to get the right result in Milan in the first-leg.

We are guaranteed a hostile reception in Italy but we have a well balanced side with plenty of youth and experience.

This showed in the previous round when we beat Standard Liege 4-2 on aggregate. We did magnificently in the first game at Maine Road when we won 4-0 and were prepared to do a containing job in Belgium.

Despite having Garry Owen sent off in the return and losing 2-0 we had done enough to go through to this round.

I'm sure Tony Book will have the Italians watched, as he has done in previous games, and will be well clued up on their strengths and weaknesses.

But it will be up to us the players to make sure we carry out his instructions and play to the best of our ability on the night and if this is the case then I'm very confident Manchester City can progress through to the last eight of the U.E.F.A. Cup.

It is never easy against Italian sides but with the return at Maine Road, we will know what to do and AC Milan could be 'shocked'.

PERHAPS the most remarkable feature of the draw is with four West German sides and three English teams left, there wasn't one England/Germany tie.

The Germans, in fact, still have all their clubs in all three Euro competitions; proof, possibly, the disappointment of the national team in the World Cup hasn't affected the domestic scene.

BORUSSIA MONCHENGLADBACH, no strangers to British fans, are having a bad time in the Bundesliga, but they've raised their game in Europe and will be tested by **SLASK WROCLAW** of Poland.

The Poles had a relatively easy passage in the last round, beating Icelandic opposition, while **BMG** needed extra-time to overcome **Benfica**, who had Alberto sent-off by Clive Thomas late in the game.

Borussia hope to have Allan Simonsen back for the Slask ties and his presence could be the deciding factor.

Danish club **ESBJERG** are happy to be facing **HERTHA BERLIN** as the Germans should attract a large crowd. Scandinavian soccer has improved a lot during the Seventies and there may just be a sensation here.

Hertha are having a wretched time in the Bundesliga, losing their first six away games and they face a winter of relegation worries.

VfB STUTTGART against **DUKLA PRAGUE** promises to be a close affair. The Germans attract huge support and are currently just behind the pacesetters in the Bundesliga.

They have Hansi Müller in midfield and in attack Dieter Hoeness is amongst the top scorers.

Dukla, however, are top of the Czech League with a 100 per cent home record. Their last "scalp" was that of Everton and that was on the away-goals ruling. Could be the same again for the Czechs.

The fourth German club, **MSV DUISBURG**, are also having a poor

time in the Bundesliga and they'll be stretched by Hibernian's conquerors **Strasbourg**, top of the French League.

The French League, which started almost immediately after the World Cup, has a long Christmas break. **Strasbourg** didn't have any players in the French World Cup team (apart from reserve goalkeeper, unfortunately called **Dropsy**) and their players aren't stale. They should be too strong for **MSV**.

Ray Clarke keeps the Union Jack flying in Europe and it would be nice to see his **AJAX** team win through, but **HONVED** won't be easy opponents by any means. Top of the Hungarian League, their 4-0 home win against Rumanians **Timisoara** saw them through in the last round.

Ajax, however, are also top of their League and are playing very well. Proof that the U.E.F.A. Cup is the strongest of the three Euro competitions lies in the fact so many of the teams are top of their respective Leagues.

It is important for English clubs to do well in Europe because U.E.F.A. are soon to change the method of qualification for teams in the U.E.F.A. Cup. It will be done on a points system and countries with the most points... awarded for performances of their clubs in Europe... will have the most sides in the U.E.F.A. Cup.

The three English teams have drawn tough opposition, especially **Manchester City** — and if they get through, they'll know things can only get harder.

Alongside we feature interviews with a player from each of our representatives.

Fans who believe the European Cup is the most difficult to win are being proved wrong. It's certainly the most difficult to qualify for, but this season, certainly, the standard of the U.E.F.A. Cup is the highest of all three tournaments.



Borussia needed extra-time to overcome Benfica (dark shirts).

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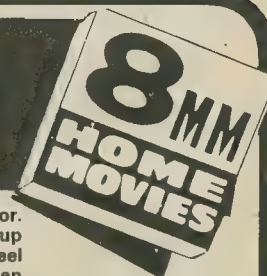
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1978 LEAGUE CUP

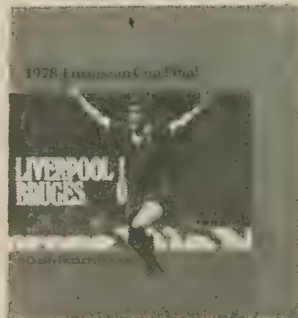
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Man. City v. Newcastle
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- 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400ft

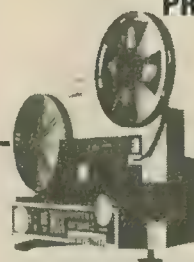
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When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Michael Nagle of Boscombe, Bournemouth, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

BEWARE, WOLVES

As a Chelsea supporter, I was amazed to hear Wolves are intending to spend millions of pounds on a new stadium.

I'd have thought they would have learned from Chelsea's mistake. When the new stand at Stamford Bridge was being built, the whole country thought it was a good idea.

When Chelsea were relegated, however, it was a terrible burden; the ground wasn't being filled, new players couldn't be bought and the club almost went bankrupt.

The directors at Wolves must know their team isn't very strong and it would be a tragedy if the Molineux club got into the same difficulties as Chelsea.

● One day, Chelsea fans may fill Stamford Bridge regularly and they will be thankful for the huge investment. However, the possibility of long-term success doesn't satisfy those fans who demand success now.

Pen-Pal

I AM an 18-year-old French boy who lives in the South of France and I'd like to correspond with a boy or girl of my own age. My favourite English team is Liverpool.

LAURENT CHRISTIAN,
383 RUE ST. PIERRE, BT B1,
73300 ST. JEAT DE MAURIENNE,
FRANCE.

No Goals

I had to laugh at a recent comment in SHOOT: "Now South Africa has television, readers there can see their heroes in action." Fair comment, until you know the truth.

T.V. coverage is controlled by a computer and therefore advertisements are slotted in when and where it likes. Many times an exciting move has been cut to go to another sport. In a recent match, as a player was running up to take a penalty, the programme cut to adverts!

Some games shown have had three or four goals and not one has been caught by T.V.

Thankfully, the F.A. Cup Final is shown live and uninterrupted.

M. WINDSOR,
PAARI,
SOUTH AFRICA.

● I believe our coverage of soccer is the finest in the world, and many countries seek advice from the B.B.C. and I.T.V. Thankfully, we don't have a computer!

Euro Championship Comments

AFTER reading reports of Eire/England, I've come to the conclusion that nothing can satisfy our hypocritical Press. Don Revie was slated for chopping and changing his team; now, Ron Greenwood is being criticised for keeping the same side. What can an England manager do to please the Press?

JULIE PLENBY, LUTON.

Asa Hartford, previewing the Scotland/Norway tie, said an early goal for Scotland was vital. What a pity the opening goal was against Scotland. Still, they must be congratulated on their fightback, with Archie Gemmill having a fine game as a player and captain.

D. DUKE, EDINBURGH.

Scotland's narrow win over my country meant Norway are one step nearer their goal — a place amongst Europe's middle-class soccer nations. Anyone who saw the game must have been impressed with the Norwegians, who played their more famous opponents off the park for long periods. When full-time professionals struggle against amateurs, who have just finished a long season, something must be wrong.

GEORG ELIASSEN, TANAGER.

The Eire/England (below) match provided entertaining and skilful football and the result was fair. The Republic are no longer a push-over, while England showed the professionalism that has gained them so much respect. Congratulations to both sides.

PAULINE DISNEY, DUBLIN

● Let's hope Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales have victories against Portugal, Bulgaria and Turkey at the end of the month.



I'M a 17-year-old West German boy and my favourite clubs are Liverpool and Hamburger SV. I'd like to write to fans of The Reds, Manchester United and Rangers.

KLAUS MÜLLER,
ILTISSSTRASSE 87,
4432 GRONAU (d),
WEST GERMANY.

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Two near-misses

I know Birmingham have never won the F.A. Cup, but have they ever reached the Final?

JOHN MULRY,
BIRMINGHAM

● Yes, they have, John — twice. First time was in 1931, when they lost a "local derby" Final 1-2 to West Bromwich. Then, in 1956, they were beaten 3-1 by Manchester City.

Birmingham have also reached the Semi-Finals on seven other occasions.

Evergreen Terry Paine

What was Terry Paine's final tally of League games when he hung up his boots?

CHRISTIAN HUTCHINSON,
GAINSBOROUGH

● When evergreen Terry eventually turned it in in 1977, Christian, his superb long-playing record was 824 League games — the first 713 for Southampton; the remainder for Hereford.

Paine also gained 19 full caps for England, and played four games at Under-23 level.

Ancient honours

Have Blackburn Rovers ever won any major honours?

NIGEL DAVIES,
CUMBRIA

● I'll say they have, Nigel — though, admittedly, not a great deal in our lifetimes.

But Rovers were just about the "Liverpool" of bygone soccer days — winning the F.A. Cup five times before the turn of the century.

They also won it a sixth time in 1928 — but that was the last of their top triumphs.

Rovers were also League Champions in 1911-12 and 1913-14 — and, much later on, Second Division Champions in 1938-39, and Third Division Champions in 1974-75.

Lost results

In my programme collection, I've forgotten to mark the scores for my local team at home against Cardiff and Palace in 1973-74. Can you help?

JACQUE WILLIAMS,
MIDDLESBROUGH

● On 17th November, Jacque, Middlesbrough beat Cardiff 3-0 with goals from Mills, Craggs, and Smith.

Then, on 29th December, they beat Palace 2-0 with goals from Foggon and Armstrong.

That was the season they stormed to promotion, of course, with Boro holding the top spot in Division Two right from the end of September — and eventually finishing 15 points clear of their nearest rivals.

Super Shankly

What honours did Liverpool gain under Bill Shankly?

MARTIN CAREY,
CARLISLE

● Bill Shankly was appointed manager on 1st December, 1959, and resigned on 12th July, 1974. Martin.

Between these dates, he guided them to three League titles (1963-64, 1965-66, and 1972-73), plus runners-up spots in 1968-69 and 1973-74. There was earlier the Second Division title in 1961-62.

There were also two F.A. Cup wins in 1964-65 and 1973-74; plus a losing Wembley appearance in 1970-71.

In Europe, the U.E.F.A. Cup was won in 1972-73; while Liverpool were beaten Finalists in the Cup-Winners' Cup in 1965-66.

In a personal sense, Shanks was voted "Manager of the Year" in 1972-73.

David Jack

Who scored the first goal at Wembley?

MICHAEL MOFFATT,
MANCHESTER

● Bolton's David Jack — five years later to become the first five-figure transfer-man in history when he moved to Arsenal for £10,890 — achieved that distinction, Michael.

It was the first of the two goals by which Bolton beat West Ham in the 1923 F.A. Cup Final — and came just two minutes after the kick-off.

SHORT PASSES

● Scotland's record in 83 full internationals against Northern Ireland is — Won 58; Drawn 12; Lost 13.

(HAROLD GROAT, Caithness)

● The Football League ref (and a very good one, too) around the 1950's with only one arm was Alf Bond.

(RICHARD BEVERLEY,
Huddersfield)

● West Ham's record League win is by 8-0 — v. Rotherham (Div Two) on 8th March, 1958; and again v. Sunderland (Div One) on 19th October, 1968.

(KEVIN BARGENT, New Zealand)

● Tottenham's Osvaldo Ardiles didn't score for Argentina in the final stages of the 1978 World Cup.

(KEVIN WALLIS, Sheffield)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

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AT HOME...



Gordon and his lovely wife Jackie give daughter Kerry a lift. Below: A trim from hairdresser friend Mike Tovey.



WITH GORDON HILL



Left: Kerry helps iron out a few wrinkles in one of Gordon's England shirts.



Moving forward with Derby County again after a spell of injury.

Easy listening with Jackie's favourite recording star Paul Williams.



Durban puts the O.K. in STOKE

ALAN Durban has brought together the old and the new to transform Stoke City. The 'old', represented by club skipper Denis Smith, admits: "Our confidence had gone and we didn't know why." The 'new', with striker Brendan O'Callaghan as spokesman, forecasts: "We are on our way back among the best in the League." Stoke, recently relegated from the First Division, were in a nose dive towards the Third when Durban took charge last February.

Smith, a Stoke player all his career and now closing on the landmark of 400 matches in the famed red and white striped shirt, explains: "We just could not put on the brake. You looked around you and saw good players everywhere — yet we were near to the bottom of the Second Division.

"Even now I feel it was not a question of ability but of confidence. You tried to work out what was wrong in the performances of players, you tried to sort out problems in your own game.

"In the end you were not playing naturally and results were going from bad to worse. As club skipper, I was trying to do too many people's jobs and my performance was suffering."

It was into this setting the 37-year-old former Wales midfield player imported players like former Manchester City skipper

Mike Doyle; the energetic Sammy Irvine from his former club Shrewsbury — and O'Callaghan from Doncaster.

"I had wanted a move for some time," says O'Callaghan, "and I felt Stoke would be right for me. There was the feeling things couldn't get worse and that, under Alan Durban, it would start to climb back."

The Yorkshire-born son of a father from County Kerry — which explains why he is in Johnny Giles' Eire squad — contributed his share in that bolt for safety. After the handsome tally of 65 goals in 187 League games for Doncaster, he scored six in his first 15 Second Division matches for Stoke.

Comfortable

"He is like a helicopter!" says Smith admiringly — and the aerial power of Durban's first investment certainly sparked that late season spurt for safety as Stoke climbed from an alarming 18th to a comfortable ninth place.

"I didn't think, in fact, I played very much different from my four and a half years at Doncaster," assesses O'Callaghan. "The great change was in the class of players.

"When I looked at the players on the staff at the Victoria Ground, it didn't seem to matter too much where they were in the League. An unsettling time with managers was behind them and they had too

many good players to sink any lower. That's how it turned out."

Durban and coach Howard Kendall worked on O'Callaghan's control, drilled him into accepting the conviction that he could comfortably handle the promotion of jumping up from Fourth to Second Division football — and O'Callaghan has never looked back since.

"The team talks before a game make such a terrific contribution to the success we've been having this season," reveals O'Callaghan. "The manager is so thorough in his assessments of opposing teams and their tactics, you instantly have the confidence to make a success of the job ahead."

Smith, so outstanding in the great Stoke teams which included players like Gordon Banks, Peter Shilton, Mickey Pejic, Jimmy Greenhoff, John Mahoney, George Eastham and Alan Hudson, is delighted to see the good times returning.

"But we're only halfway back to the First Division," he insists. "There is so much work to get through yet. I'm sure this side now is good enough to gain promotion and hold a mid-table position there — but even that is not what we will settle for. The manager will presumably then strengthen the side so we can go for the top."

His own game has settled back into the smoothly efficient style which has stamped his years at



Stoke. "It is marvellous to have Doyle alongside. There are two of us now to sort out problems and talk young players through difficult patches."

He is also deeply impressed with the eager, persistent contribution which comes from Irvine at the hub of this rejuvenated Stoke side. "You have to play in the same side as Sammy to appreciate the job he does," says Smith.

"He works and works in there and typifies that breed which they call a player's player."

Durban pressed hard for his former club, Shrewsbury, to part company with the young Scottish midfield player whom he had launched into League football. Now youngsters Irvine and O'Callaghan are sharing the soaring success of a club pulling out of one of the bleakest spells in its history.

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Bolton's 'unsung hero'

SUPPORTERS of Bolton Wanderers could be forgiven for thinking their team has only two players capable of scoring goals.

The Trotters' goals-for column is almost the exclusive property it seems of Messrs Worthington and Gowling.

Of the first 21 goals scored by the club this season no fewer than 18 were attributed to this pair, with one each for Neil Whatmore, Brian Smith and Willie Morgan, the last two both finding the net against Leeds.

Yet when Alan Gowling first arrived at Burnden Park from Newcastle towards the end of last season's promotion campaign he could do little right.

"The team had almost made it after three years of trying and I felt like a gate-crasher at a party that was nearly over.

"It was difficult to settle in because the team had its own way of playing and were obviously riding high without me.

"To be fair Ian Greaves told me he had bought me for this season and I feel I've fitted in much better now.

"I didn't score a single goal last season, but this time I got off to the perfect start with one against Bristol City on the opening day and although we lost that match it was nice to get one under my belt.

"Since then Frank and I have built up a good understanding and fingers crossed the goals have

been coming fairly regularly."

Alan believes it's important to have two strikers operating as he does with Frank, and he's confident they're forming the sort of deadly partnership he used to enjoy with Malcolm Macdonald at Newcastle.

"One acts as a foil for the other and we've worked out a system whereby I attack down the left, my favourite side, with Frank, although naturally left-footed, a little nearer the centre. This seems to be confusing defences who are getting mixed-up with the full-back leaving extra space on the far side of the box.

"Frank is having a great season and deserves to be the leading scorer in the Division. He's got such a variety of subtle flicks and unorthodox plays he takes a bit of getting used to, but I think I'm reading him quite well now, hence the goals.

"I know we've got the lion's share of the goals so far but I'm sure we'll be looking for a few from lads like Neil Whatmore, Roy Greaves and big Sam Allardyce as the season goes on."

Gowling's contribution to the side has brought glowing praise from Ian Greaves, who first signed him from Manchester United when he was manager of Huddersfield Town.

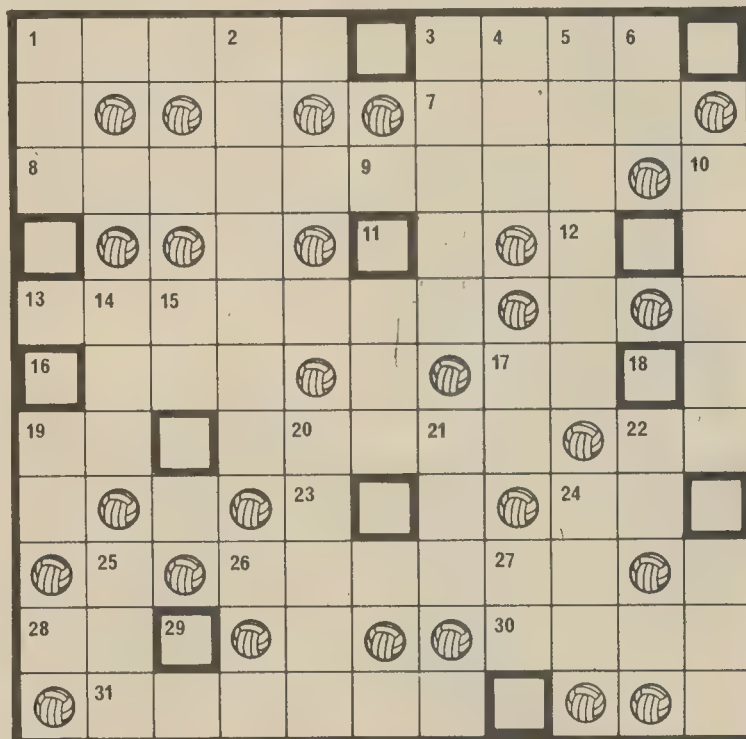
"Alan is really the unsung hero of the side. Frank gets more attention because he's the more elegant of the two and scores some spectacular goals. He's also a character and a crowd pleaser.

"But don't underrate Alan. He has a lot more skill than people give him credit for and he's doing a terrific job for us.

"He might look all arms and legs — but he's one helluva player," he says.

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Bristol City defender. Answers on page 38.



ACROSS:—

- (1) Arsenal defender. (5 & 6)
- (7) ---nsl-y. Animal whose letters are needed to complete the English club.
- (8) Ground of club in Clue 15 Down. (5 & 4)
- (11) Linc-l- City of Sincil Bank.
- (12) --nd-e from Tannadice.
- (13) On most occasions.
- (16) Plenty of this may be required after a hard season.
- (17) -y-ec--tle Park (Hearts). Insects from the omissions.
- (19) Cleaners — or certain players.
- (22) --rder Bremen; West German League club.
- (23) Neil Whatm--- of Bolton.
- (24) Stuart ---m of Middlesbrough.
- (26) Scatter or make to disperse.
- (28) — Masson player-coach of Notts County.
- (30) Bu-n---. The omissions from the English club can be made into an old musical instrument.
- (31) — Crescent; York City's ground.

DOWN:—

- (1) — Park; home of Crystal Palace.
- (2) Act as a go-between or peace-maker.
- (3) D-r-y C-u-t-. The Rams.
- (4) Dave O'---ry of Arsenal.
- (5) Make sorrowful — perhaps by a bad performance.
- (6) Oscar --tiz, Argentinian World Cup player.
- (9) B--ckvi--- Pe-k (Falkirk). Add an "S" to the omissions to give "wheels".
- (10) A Coventry City 'keeper. (3 & 6)
- (14) Manny Andru-z---ski of Southampton.
- (15) H-dder-fi-l- Town (See 8 Across)
- (17) Jimmy C--e of Liverpool.
- (18) Number of times West Germany have won the World Cup.
- (20) A team gets only one from a drawn game.
- (21) Johnny —, Dutch international.
- (24) Surname of holder of the Fourth Division — League goalscoring record.
- (25) High throw or kick.
- (27) Tree associated with Reading.
- (29) Feye--ord; Dutch League club.



GOALKEEPERS'

We asked four to answer questions concerning this season



TONY GODDEN
(West Brom.)

Long-range shots, are you facing more now since the World Cup?

Right at the start of the season I felt we were seeing more shots of that kind. But it has tended to drop off as the memory of the World Cup fades. Players were moving the ball more than they used to on the long range efforts. That must be down to better technique because that is what it's all about at the end of the day. I would have expected it to become more popular because defences have tightened up on individual marking and this could be a way to beat the rearguard. But I don't know whether it will continue. The fact is it's very hard to shoot from a distance accurately.

Who is your choice for the most outstanding forward you've faced?

I wouldn't like to make a choice between Kenny Dalglish and Tony Woodcock of Nottingham Forest. Woodcock gave us plenty of trouble when we played Forest as he will most back-fours this term. He is performing as well as he did last season which says a lot because defences know more about him now. He is always so accurate with his shots. But Dalglish, too, is again a fine player. He is one of the quickest thinkers I've ever seen in the game.

What specialist training do you carry out?

We tend to work an extra 30 minutes after training. We do the same as the others and then another half an hour on goalkeeping alone. We do agility work and concentrate on dealing with shots, crosses and cutting out the problems facing a keeper with approach work. We practise diving and trying to take a ball off a player coming at you by improving your style. A lot of modern-day goalkeeping is about getting your own approach right. It's often just in your head — if you think right and have good technique, that is what really counts.



PHIL PARKES (O.P.R.)

I honestly cannot say I've had to face a battering ram of 30-yard shots screaming towards my top corner. I don't really think the number of shots has increased from that range since the World Cup. I've faced a couple but they weren't well struck and caused me few problems. Maybe we don't see so many shots like that over here because of the difference in the balls. On the Continent, they tend to swerve around more than the ones we use. I can't understand, though, why strikers don't try more shots from that sort of range. Whenever I see a goal scored from a distance, I think "why on earth don't they occur more often over here". Maybe we aim to get into too good a position before shooting and the chance is then lost.

My man must be Kenny Dalglish for his sharpness in the box — it really is incredible. He must be the best around at the moment. He has this knack of being in the right place at the right time and doing the correct thing. That's all you need if you're a striker and you have to score goals if you can do all those things. I'd say Manchester United's Jimmy Greenhoff isn't far behind Dalglish. Greenhoff is an unsung hero but he's a highly effective player, especially this season. He is brave and so quick, especially — like Dalglish — on the turn.

We always train very, very hard for goalkeeping. The four keepers at the club try and work together as much as possible. We prefer it with the ball to pure physical fitness stuff — we try and handle the ball all the time. Bob Wilson comes down once a week to give us advice and experience — there's nothing so important to a goalkeeper as experience. We work on our weak points — whether it be going down on our left side, or right or meeting crosses. Working hard on your weak areas can improve them considerably.



JOE CORRIGAN
(Man. City)

I don't think there have been any more examples of long-range shots in the English League this season and I don't reckon there will be in the future. The reason is simple — it's not as easy to get the chance to score goals like that in the First Division. On the Continent, they allow you to come so far into their own half — they just retreat and retreat. You get plenty of time and space to line up 30 yard shots but here, teams don't concede midfield so easily so you have got too many players contesting possession to get much time for those sort of specialist shots.

But if you are playing abroad against massed defences you've got to find some other way of scoring than just cutting past defenders. So they shoot from long range and it works.

I'd pick Spurs' Peter Taylor. He's certainly the one who has given me most problems even though we beat Tottenham 2-0 at Maine Road early on. I've always rated the England international as a good player; he is very quick, is a great thinker of the game and play, has skill and is dangerous coming from the left. He can score goals and create them, too. I was glad we met Spurs on a day when I was on form because Taylor was a handful. He caught our defence a few times with his runs and came close to scoring on several occasions.

He is the most impressive I've seen so far. He did a lot against us and looked a very useful player.

I'm doing the same sort of training this term as I was doing three or four years ago. It's a routine really, never changes very much. I do exercises to get warmed up for half an hour and then face shots from manager Tony Book, coach Bill Taylor and probably reserve coach Glyn Pardoe. One shoots from straight in a line and the other two stand either side, close to the left and right posts. The point of that is it's no good just knocking the ball away — a striker could just tap in the rebound. You've got to reach the ball and catch it cleanly giving the striker no tit-bits to feed off.

It's all down to reacting quickly. Even for a big fellow like me, I've got to be sharp and alert and get down to the far post as fast as a small fellow.



LES SEALEY
(Coventry City)

I've found there have been more of these sort of shots. It's becoming part of the game over here now to see these long range efforts and I think it's a good thing for the fans. They are likely to see some spectacular goals scored and that can only be good for the game. I'm not so sure it's good for us goalkeepers. If someone is shooting from 25 or 30-yards out, a lot can happen to the ball in the time it leaves the player's boot and the goalkeeper goes for it. It can hit someone, take a deflection, go the other way, or swerve. So it makes life more difficult for the keepers. If you let a shot in from that distance, too, questions are bound to be asked by your own side. So I'd say it's good for football but not for the poor old goalkeeper.

I'd agree with what Phil Parkes has said — Kenny Dalglish has got to be the one. The Liverpool striker is a constant menace to goalkeepers because he is so quick. When we played at Anfield, the Scot was always there whenever I had to make a save. He poaches, hangs around and puts pressure on the keeper. If there are any loose balls he's on to them in a flash. He is so quick, too, at turning defenders inside the box to create that vital extra yard of space in which to work. Of course, he's always tightly marked but he seems to lose a defender at the crucial moment. If he does that, you don't know where the shot is going to come from. He often turns and goes the way you are just not expecting. He is a very sharp player.

We do specialist training at Coventry. We work on goalkeepers' jobs most days. I have always believed you've got to be extremely fit and agile to be a good number one. People might think you're not going to need the same amount of energy because you're not running around like an outfield player. But you do because you have to sometimes get down low to a far post shot in a flash. During the week, therefore, I do exercises aimed at keeping me completely fit. The manager lines up the whole side and they all take quick shots at goal. I dive to the left, then have to get low down to the right, then within seconds, reach a ball headed for the top left corner. You're on the move all the time testing your fitness and agility. We do a good half hour of those exercises each time.

QUESTIONNAIRE

What is the most annoying goal you've conceded?

There's no doubt about my choice. The papers afterwards titled it 'The Goal you'll never see again'. It was against Liverpool and came about because both myself and a defender lost concentration at the same time. We had been under pressure when a cross came over and Dalglish sent in a weak header which I collected without any trouble. I was looking for someone to throw it to and the one I chose then looked up elsewhere, breaking my concentration for some reason. Not thinking, I started to roll the ball along the ground in front of me without seeing Dalglish nearby. He slipped up and simply toe-ended the ball into the empty net. It was very quick thinking on his part — but what a blunder I made.

It's got to be the goal I conceded in the home game with West Brom which cost us the game 0-1. I'd played ever so well throughout until Cyrille Regis chased a long ball downfield. Ernie Howe, our centre back, was with him running for the loose ball and I started to come out. I thought Regis would get there first and acted accordingly. But Ernie beat him, tried to find me not realising I was only two yards from him. He lashed the ball over me into the net for an own-goal which cost us the game. It was one of those matches where Albion never looked like scoring until then. I was playing well and felt very confident. I suppose both Ernie and myself were to blame. But it was certainly the most annoying goal I've conceded so far this season.

The goal I conceded against Birmingham at St. Andrews in October infuriated me. I came for a cross into the area and completely missed it — and a player on the far post just headed it home. It was an extraordinary lapse on my part — I made up my mind to come for the cross, did so and then never got anywhere near it. I'm still trying to work out why I misjudged it so badly. I don't usually come for crosses like that but felt confident I would get it. I wasn't late or anything: had plenty of time to catch it. But my jump put me nowhere near the ball and as I was coming down, the ball was passing over my head. It annoyed me conceding a goal like that because it should never have happened.

No doubts about this one, I'm sorry to say. It was against Ipswich and helped us concede two early goals at home to the Cup holders. A shot from an Ipswich player was half blocked and rolled very slowly towards me in the goal. I should have taken it with my eyes shut but I was having a terrible game; one of those nightmare matches everyone has from time to time. I didn't collect the ball cleanly, it hit my body and rolled loose — and Clive Woods whacked it in from close range. I felt a complete fool.

Can you single out the best save you've made?

Perhaps the most satisfying save I've made this season came in the first 30 seconds of the match against Liverpool. I was pleased with the save, not because of its quality, I only pushed a shot round for a corner — but because of the timing. You usually don't like anything difficult so early in the game but I was pleased I was on my toes, ready for that so soon. It was the first time I touched the ball and it could easily have gone in. But generally speaking, I've got to be honest — our defence has been playing so well this season I haven't had to make any really spectacular saves.

That was also at home against a Midland side. We were playing Aston Villa and a centre came over from the right on to the head of Shelton. He was only eight yards out and sent in a fierce header but I dived away to my left to catch it and hold on to it. It was one of those saves that you are pleased with but don't really rate as anything TOO special at first. But then a few people started coming up to me afterwards and saying what a great one it was. Holding the ball once I'd reached it was the key factor because a loose ball in the six yard box could have easily led to a goal.

I think I'd have to go back to that Spurs' match I mentioned in question two for the answer to this point. It wasn't spectacular because I came out to meet Peter Taylor as he dribbled through. I appreciated it, however, because of what it involved. Peter caught the defence square and although I had to come out, everything went to perfection from my point of view. I narrowed the angle, spread my body and dived at his feet taking the ball clean off his toe. I held the ball with one hand only as he tried to take it round me. It was 0-0 at the time and if we'd conceded one then, it could have been a different story. As it was, I completed the save as it should be made — everything went right for me. Often, the best aren't spectacular and that was the case with this one.

This came on the opening day, against Middlesbrough at Ayresome Park. David Mills came into our box and drifted away to the left. But as I moved out to my right to cover him, he sent in a terrific shot aimed at my left hand top corner. I was going the wrong way. It was very hard to get to because I had a long way to go. But I flung myself across and just touched it to push it around the post. He hit it well, it was a good shot and I suppose he thought he'd score. From my point of view, it was one of those saves that either come off or completely fail. You reach it or you don't and then it's a goal. But I was pleased to get across that far and touch it away. It's got to be my best save so far this season.



Nottingham Forest and England striker Tony Woodcock (above, on the ball) has posed a lot of problems for opposing defences this term. Kenny Dalglish (below, number 7) turns away after scoring for Liverpool v Q.P.R.



Joe Corrigan pulled off a satisfying save from Spurs' Peter Taylor (above, white shirt) in a League game at Maine Road this season. Ipswich's Clive Woods (right, on the ball) scored a simple goal against Coventry City.





BRIGHTON manager Alan Mullery readily admits to being the world's worst loser.

He has been criticised often for his attitude in defeat. But he does not regard it as a fault in his make-up and makes no apology for it.

Mullery has to be a winner and he regards the biggest disappointment of his life as being on the losing side in the 1975 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley, when West Ham beat Fulham 2-0.

Strange that, you may think. For that Wembley appearance was an unexpected bonus at the end of a great career and many people would have been happy with just playing in the Final.

Not Mullery. He was sick at finishing a loser — and made no bones about it. He recalls the episode.

"Bobby Moore came over to me when the final whistle blew and said: 'This has been smashing hasn't it'."

"Not as far as I'm concerned," I growled — clearly shocking Moore

And football was always the great love of Mullery's life. When he was not kicking a ball around himself he was standing on the terraces at Queens Park Rangers, cheering on his boyhood idols.

"Rangers were always my team — probably because their ground was nearest to my home," recalls Mullery.

But when it came to making a choice after earning schoolboy honours with London and Middlesex, Mullery decided to sign for Fulham.

That was a shock to Rangers, who had wanted him — along with West Ham and Brentford.

"I decided on Fulham after talking things over with my dad. We agreed I would have a better chance of making quick progress at Craven Cottage," he explained.

It proved a wise choice. For less than two years after joining Fulham the up- and - coming young Mullery was in the first team.

He made his debut in February,

ALAN



1960, against Leyton Orient. Fulham won 5-2, with the great Johnny Haynes getting a hat-trick.

From that point the name Mullery became more and more prominent in the game. He established himself firmly in the Fulham side alongside Haynes and Bedford Jezzard.

Mullery was being checked increasingly by the big clubs. And, after gaining three England Under-23 caps, he moved across London to Tottenham in 1964.

Tottenham paid £72,000 — a huge sum in those days — for a player who was to help them to some of the greatest triumphs in their history.

At first the crowd did not take to him and he needed all his considerable character to battle on through some hostile barracking.

But Mullery has never been short of guts and he stuck it out until the fans finally acknowledged the part he was playing and took him to their hearts.

A few months after becoming a Tottenham player Mullery won his first full England cap, against Holland.

Terry Venables, now the successful boss of Crystal Palace, also made his first appearance that night. And Holland gave a debut to an emerging young striker named Johan Cruyff!

Mullery was in the original 40 for England's 1966 World Cup squad. But he failed to make the final 22 and was reduced to the role of spectator as West Germany were beaten 4-2 in the Final at Wembley to give England the trophy.

It all really started happening for Mullery the following year, when he helped Tottenham to win the F.A. Cup and established himself in the international side.

The F.A. Cup triumph came against Chelsea, beaten 2-1, to give Mullery his first club honour, in the 1967 Final.

England caps flowed thick and fast after this and he was a key

with my attitude.

"What on earth are you on about," he gasped in surprise. "You have played in an F.A. Cup Final, when you thought all the good days were behind you."

I snapped back: "As far as I'm concerned the whole thing has been a waste of time."

"I did not come here for a nice day out. I came to win and I'm sick because we did not do it!"

And that attitude has been with Mullery from the day he was born.

He wanted to win at everything from the moment he was old enough to romp in the streets of Notting Hill, in West London — where he first saw the light of day.

FULHAM — Alan Mullery's first professional club. He made his debut in 1960, against Leyton Orient. Fulham won 5-2, with the great Johnny Haynes getting a hat-trick.

TOTTENHAM — He moved across London to Tottenham in 1964. Tottenham paid £72,000 for him.

ENGLAND — He won his first full England cap in 1965, against Holland.

WEMBLEY — He played in the 1975 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley, when West Ham beat Fulham 2-0.

figure in Sir Alf Ramsey's build-up towards the 1970 World Cup.

And Ramsey stood by Mullery when the player suffered the biggest humiliation of his life in 1968. He was sent-off playing against Yugoslavia in the 1968 European Nations Cup.

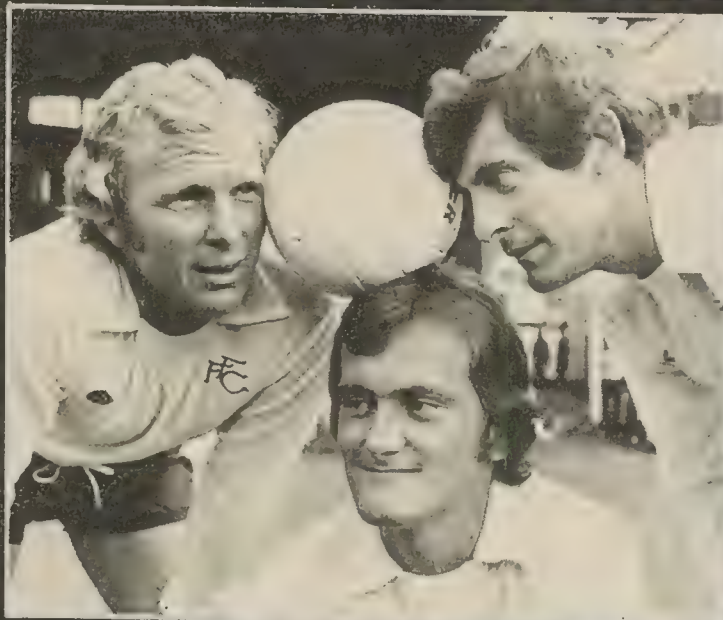
It was an incident Mullery bitterly regretted and Ramsey readily forgave to strengthen still further the bond between the two.

At the end of 1968 the legendary Dave Mackay left Tottenham to go and help the rebuilding of Derby County. And Mullery was promptly named the new skipper at White Hart Lane.

More domestic honours were to follow. But first came England's attempt to retain the World Cup, in Mexico in 1970.

And it looked good for them when they came safely through their group, finishing second to Brazil.

It looked even better when they led old adversaries West Germany 2-0 in the Quarter-Finals — with



MULLERY

the man who hates to come second!

TOP OF PAGE . . . Team-mates at Fulham, Bobby Moore (left), Fleming Hansen and Mullery.

RIGHT . . . Alan proudly holds the Footballer of the Year award he collected in May, 1975.

Mullery grabbing one of the goals.

Then the roof fell in on England. For the Germans made a sensational comeback to score three times and send us crashing out of the competition.

Mullery put that disappointment behind him and came home to lead Tottenham to victory in the League Cup in 1971. They beat Aston Villa 2-0 at Wembley, with big Martin Chivers getting both goals.

This earned them a place in the following year's U.E.F.A. Cup. And Mullery helped them to win that — although the odds were stacked against him at one stage.

He had been troubled by a pelvic injury that kept him out of action for a long time. When he eventually got over it he could not regain his place in the side and was allowed to return to Fulham, on loan.

He was a forlorn outsider as Tottenham made good progress in the competition, reaching the Semi-Finals — where they were paired with powerful A.C. Milan.

The first-leg was over with Spurs winning 2-1 when they were hit by an injury crisis and Mullery was dramatically recalled to play in the return, in the San Siro Stadium.

And to complete a real fairy story Mullery scored to earn Tottenham a draw in Milan and take them through to the Final.

Even then Mullery was not finished. For he did it again in the Final against fellow First Division club Wolves.

Tottenham won the first-leg, at Molineux, 2-1. Wolves gave them a tremendous fight in the return and it was a Mullery goal that earned Tottenham a 1-1 draw — and gave them the trophy.

"That was real Roy of the Rovers stuff," recalled Mullery. "One minute I was out in the cold and apparently not wanted by Tottenham. The next I was scoring goals to help them win a European competition."

Recalled

"My pride was stung at the thought of not being wanted by them and when they recalled me I went out with a point to prove."

"I suppose you could say I managed to prove it!"

That European Final was Mullery's last game for Spurs. He had decided long before that he would not be staying at White Hart Lane and at the end of season 1971-72 he went back to Fulham.

Fulham wanted him back to help bring on the fine crop of youngsters that were emerging at Craven Cottage.

He also helped them to that F.A. Cup Final appearance we started this story with. He spent one more year with them, before retiring in May, 1976.



For two months he kicked his heels and fretted, waiting for the chance to break into coaching or management.

And his big opportunity came in July, when Peter Taylor suddenly left Brighton and he was offered the job there.

"I got the call at nine o'clock and I had accepted the job by midday," recalls Mullery.

"When my phone rang and it was Brighton chairman Mike Bamber asking to see me, I could

not get there quickly enough. I would have walked there for a chance like that."

Mullery wasted no time making his mark as a manager, for he steered Brighton to promotion from the Third Division in his first season in charge.

And he came agonisingly close to taking them up again at the end of last term.

But Tottenham pipped them for a place in the First Division on goal-difference and Brighton were condemned to finish in fourth place.

Although regarded as promotion 'certs' this time round, Brighton are lacking the consistency of the previous two seasons.

On some occasions they have produced the best football of Mullery's reign. On others they have been way below par and dropped valuable points.

If anyone can help them get their consistent level of performance back it is that master motivator Mullery — a man who simply will not settle for second best.

His aims as a manager give a perfect clue to the high standards he sets — and expects others to follow.

"My ambition is to be the best manager the game has ever known," he declares.

"I don't suppose I'll ever achieve it. But it won't stop me trying."

"The day I stop aiming for the very top is the day I'll give up and get out of the game."

Mullery names Bill Nicholson, Alf Ramsey and Alec Stock as the three managers who have had the biggest influence on his career.

"I'd like to embody the best qualities of all three and if I manage that I won't go far wrong," he claims.

Awareness

"Bill Nicholson had marvellous tactical awareness and was an outstanding coach."

"Like me he wanted to be a winner and if I have any complaint about him it's that he was not easy to talk to, or communicate with."

"Alf was totally different in this department and everyone called into his squad was ready to die for him."

"And Alec Stock is just about the best public relations man I've ever come across."

"Any reporter going to him for a story was never disappointed and Alec's flair for dealing with the Press gave Fulham more than their share of publicity."

Brighton's future is clearly in good hands and the club can only continue to flourish under his leadership.

Mullery believes you get nothing unless you graft for it. He works hard and expects everyone else around him to do the same.

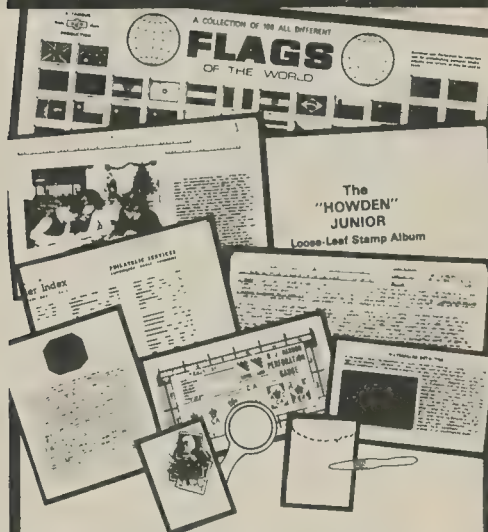
And when the day's work is done he rushes off back to his Surrey home to relax with his wife June, daughter Samantha, 10, and son Neil, 5½.

Mullery had a great career as a player. He has made a marvellous start as a manager.

But it's our bet the best is yet to come — and that can only be wonderful news for Brighton's vast army of fans.

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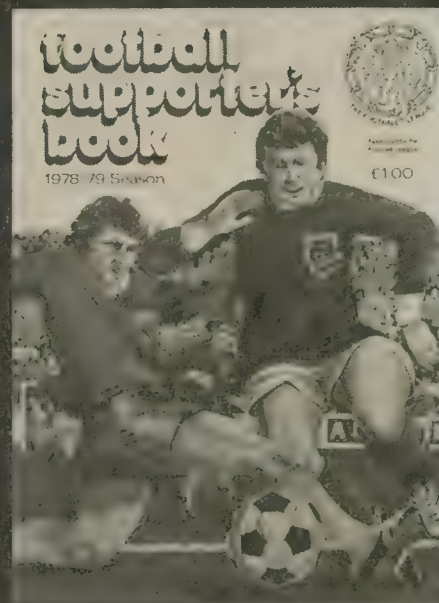
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RANGERS

SCOTLAND'S TREBLE WINNERS



ABOVE . . . It looks like a race for the ball, but in fact Alex MacDonald (right) nips in to score against Dundee United.

LEFT . . . Defender Tom Forsyth shows his power against Arthur Duncan of Hibs.

BELOW . . . Winger Davie Cooper, who signed from Clydebank.

RIGHT . . . One of the many rising stars at Ibrox, Kenny Watson.



Rangers of yesteryear . . . how they lined-up in 1898/99.

Continued on page 30

RAN



BACK ROW (left to right): Alex Miller, Derek Parlane, Colin Jackson, Peter McCloy, Stewart Kennedy, Tom Forsyth, Kenny Watson, Alan Boyd.

CENTRE ROW: Tommy Craig (physio), Eric Morris, Steve Richardson, Ralph Brand, Derek Johnstone, Gordon Smith, David Armour, Ally Dawson, Jim Denny.

GERRS



Joe Mason (trainer).

FRONT ROW: John Greig (manager), Chris Mackay, Chris Robertson, Tommy McLean, Sandy Jardine, John MacDonald, Davie Cooper, Alex MacDonald, Bobby Russell, Derek Strickland.



LEFT . . . Jubilant 'Gers after their Cup victory over Aberdeen last season.
RIGHT . . . Wee Tommy McLean, outstanding in the win over PSV in Eindhoven.



RANGERS

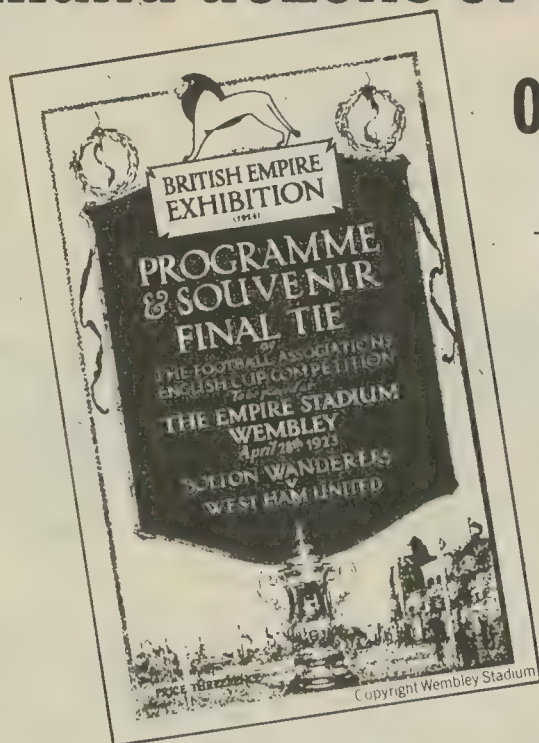
continued

BELOW . . . Chris Robertson, in scoring form for the reserves lately.
BOTTOM . . . Derek Parlane goes flat out yet just misses a goal.



ABOVE . . . The experienced Sandy Jardine, who has shone at full-back and sweeper for the Light Blues.

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OPPOSITE PAGE . . . Ray holds the Little World Cup, which the England youngsters won in Switzerland in 1978. The international star also shows sportsmanship by shaking hands with Mickey Thomas of Wales after the 1978 British Championship tie.

ABOVE, LEFT . . . Eyes on the ball, Ray in action for England.

ABOVE RIGHT . . . A light-hearted moment in training with Chelsea goalkeeper Peter Bonetti.

BELOW . . . A thoughtful Wilkins with Chelsea manager Ken Shellito, no doubt discussing the club's disappointing form this season.



MENOTTI'S FUTURE

THE future of Argentina manager César Luis Menotti (below) will be decided very soon. His contract expires at the end of the year and he says he has not looked further than that.

He hopes the national team can play 15 internationals during 1979, including games against England and Scotland. In 1980, Menotti hopes there will be an Under-21 tournament for the world's top nations, although whether he'll be in charge of the World Champions is unknown.

El Flaco — the Thin One, as he's called — says his future is in the hands of the Argentinian F.A. By that, he means he hopes they make him a good offer both money-wise and football-wise. Menotti claims it is the system, not he, that is important and even if he doesn't continue, his successor must have every co-operation from the authorities.

Menotti has planned ahead so as the 1979 manager, whoever he may be, can carry on with a properly organised pattern of work.



24 WORLD CUP FINALISTS IN '82 POSE PROBLEMS

I KNOW there've been rumours right, left and centre, but it now seems almost certain 24 teams will be competing in the 1982 World Cup Finals in Spain. Both the Spaniards and F.I.F.A. favour this figure, and the only objector is now U.E.F.A. who are afraid the higher number may mean a drop in quality.

At the moment it seems 16 countries will qualify in the normal

way by playing in preliminary groups.

Then, Spain and Argentina qualify automatically as hosts and Champions respectively.

To decide on the other six Finalists, the idea is to form two six-team groups on a world wide basis (four from Europe and eight from elsewhere) with the top three in each group qualifying for the Finals.

The delicate point that has still to be thrashed out is *who* will decide *which* 12 countries will take part in this second phase.

The Spaniards, eager to ensure a fair quota of crowd-pulling teams, want to nominate the 12, but F.I.F.A. insist this would be clearly against the World Cup regulations.

Interesting... I'll keep you informed on any developments in the situation.

Bayern Munich have scored their 1,000th Bundesliga goal. Or, rather, they haven't! Goal Number 1,000 for the Bavarians was actually an own-goal by Werder Bremen's Gells. Ironically, the great Gerd Müller had the chance to write his name in the record books yet again... but missed a penalty earlier in the game.

● Picture shows Müller's miss in Bremen.



WORLDWIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

GERMAN club Schalke 04 got rid of Dutch full-back Wim Suurbier because he couldn't claim a regular place in the team, so they were paying him for training and being sub (although the player was quite happy!). The same has happened with 32-year-old Manni Ritschel, whose salary was £4,000 per month.

He became frustrated at not being able to play, so came to an agreement with the club who gave him a £25,000 golden handshake and he now plays as an amateur.

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BRAZIL START PLANNING FOR SPAIN

ALTHOUGH they finished third in the 1978 World Cup, that was a disaster for Brazil. The national side has been abandoned and they are now looking to the future by introducing an Under-23 team to the international scene.

Two further teams are planned: juveniles for the Panamerican Games of 1979 and one for the Juvenile World Championships next August. A side of amateur players will also be formed.

The aim of these teams is to produce a squad for the 1982 World Cup in Spain, with an average age of 27, which the Brazilians consider ideal.

Thus, the CBD — the Brazilian F.A. — is going back to its old method. The

best players will be selected and the manager chosen later, as opposed to the other way round.

Coutinho, the 1978 boss, picked players to fit into his pattern and he expected them to make Brazil's "new" football the most advanced in the world. Sadly, in Argentina, we saw neither the "old" nor the "new" Brazil, even though they were the only unbeaten country in the Finals.

Brazil beat Italy to finish third in the 1978 World Cup Finals.



NEWS FLASHES

Before Portugal's home 1-1 draw with Belgium, their F.A. took the unprecedented step of cancelling their League programme for two complete weekends, allowing their players to train together every day and play friendly games against club sides in the evenings.

Presumably based on their World Cup showing with a team dominated by Juventus players, the Italian Champions set up a new record by selling more than £900,000 of season tickets.

Poland goalkeeper Jan Tomaszewski has stopped his third penalty this season in the Belgian League for Beerschot, while Dutch striker Ruud Geels had scored 12 goals in eight games for Anderlecht.

Paul Breitner is turning in some great performances for Bayern Munich, who he rejoined this summer, but still refuses to play for the West German national team.

A bad day for Belgian club Berchem Sports . . . when they played Anderlecht, they lost 1-3 and thieves stole the gate receipts from what will no doubt be their biggest income of the season.

Another award for Kevin Keegan . . . his header from Trevor Brooking's free-kick in Denmark was chosen as Goal of the Month by a West German television sports programme.

While English clubs are scouting for talent in Holland, Dutch clubs continue their search for players. Visiting Go Ahead Eagles for two months are a coach and two players from Indonesia. The coach is there strictly to study but the players Suapri (22) and Muliady (20) are already playing with the third team on a trial basis.

AC Milan and Inter have increased their admission prices at San Siro. The cheapest standing ticket will now cost £2.66 and that will be increased for the local derbies and matches against the League leaders, Juventus, Torino etc.

Schalke 04 have signed an agreement to wear the name of the sponsor on their shirts . . . but won't receive a single Mark for this. The "firm" is the German Cancer Research.

Nantes are unbeaten in their last 47 home games, but have a long way to go before they break the French record held by Saint-Etienne: 84 matches, which was between March 25th, 1973, and August 19th, 1977.

The inauguration ceremony of Pope John Paul II was switched to the morning so Italians could watch their football as usual in the afternoon.

GOAL-SHY WONDERS

OVER the past few seasons, I've periodically listed Europe's Goal-Shy Wonders — picking out the teams who pick up their points mostly in low-scoring matches (0-0 draws or 1-0 victories) with the result they end up with more points than goals.

I'll be doing the same again from time to time this season, and here's a list of the teams who hadn't produced the goods in terms of goalscoring up to the middle of

October.

Austria	Voest Linz, Rapid Vienna
Belgium	Waterschei, Beringen
Bulgaria	CSKA Sofia, Lokomotiv Sofia, Marek Stanke
Czechoslovakia	Spartak Trnava, Tatra Presov
E. Germany	None
England	Everton
France	None
Greece	Aris Salonika, Panseiraios, Panathiki, Panionios
Holland	NEC Nijmegen, Maastricht VV, Venlo VV, ADO Hague, PEC Zwolle
Hungary	Pecs Dosza, Raba Eto Gyoe, Zalaegerszeg, Szombathely, Szekeshervar
Italy	Inter Milan, Torino, Atalanta, Catanzaro, AC Milan, Perugia
Luxembourg	None
Poland	Legia Warsaw, Slask Wroclaw, Widzen Lodz
Portugal	Academico, Famaciao, Viseu
Rumania	Baia Mare, SC Bacau, Polit. Jassy
Scotland	Hibernian
Spain	Espanol, Salamanca, Valencia
Sweden	Malmö
Switzerland	None
W. Germany	None
Yugoslavia	Osijek, OFK Belgrade, Rijeka

Apart from the usual Italian and Greek names (three Greek clubs had scored only one goal in their first five matches), there are one or two surprises. For example, the five names from the Dutch League where goals are normally plentiful and teams have practically never appeared in our Goal-Shy list.

Then there's the surprise appearance of Bob Latchford's Everton and — look carefully at the Spanish names — Valencia, complete with Mario Kempes and Rainer Bonhof!

HJK Helsinki have just won the Finnish Championship for the 11th time, but their hopes for a good European Cup run next season took a blow when their Turkish striker Atik Ismail, Finnish-born of a Turkish immigrant worker, went to Besiktas. He scored 20 League goals, five better than anyone else, in Finland.

COSMOS TOUR

CONSIDERING their European tour came at the end of a tiring season, and the schedule was very tight, the Cosmos did quite well, overall. A total of 341,659 fans saw their nine games, an average of 37,962. Giorgio Chinaglia brought his total for the year to 54 goals.

Here are the details:

Bayern Munich (Germany)	1-7 L	79,000
Brescia F.C. (Italy)	2-1 W	30,000
VfB Stuttgart (Germany)	1-6 L	60,000
Freiburger F.C. (Germany)	0-2 L	30,000
Chelsea (England)	1-1 D	39,659
Atlético Madrid (Spain)	3-2 W	45,000
AEK (Greece)	5-3 W	28,000
Red Star (Yugoslavia)	4-6 L	23,000
Galatasaray (Turkey)	0-2 L	30,000

Tueart (2); Seninho; Chinaglia

WHO DOES HE JOIN!

DUTCH clubs FC Twente (Enschede) and Feyenoord are squabbling over the future of 19-year-old Icelandic player Petar Petursson. A striker, Petursson scored Iceland's goal when they were beaten 3-1 by East Germany in Halle and watching from the stand was Twente manager Spitz Kohn.

He approached the player after the match and Petursson agreed to join Twente, but Feyenoord business manager Peter Stephan had already come to a financial arrangement with the player's club IK Akranes.

Now the Dutch F.A. is being asked to decide which club he joins.

THE German F.A. are investigating a plan to have undersoil heating at all the Bundesliga stadiums, in order to prevent so many postponements. It would cost around £125,000 per club to install; at present only the Olympic Stadium in Munich has such a luxury.

BORUSSIA Mönchengladbach goalkeeper Wolfgang Knieb has an impressive list of "penalty scalps" to his credit this season. So far, he's saved spot-kicks from Kevin Keegan, Gerd Müller and Jürgen Röber of Werder Bremen. The overall Penalty King is Norbert Nigbur, the Hertha Berlin goalie, who has stopped 13 penalties in all.

BEING an international star isn't all glamour . . . as Rainer Bonhof will testify. The Valencia midfielder played for West Germany in Prague recently and had a schedule that surely even Henry Kissinger would have found tiring.

After travelling to Burgos with Valencia, Rainer flew to Madrid and caught a plane to Zurich, where he had to change. Due to delays caused by fog, he missed his connection and when he eventually did catch a plane to Czechoslovakia, it went to Bratislava. Rainer completed the last 200 miles of his journey to Prague by cab!

Still, it didn't affect Bonhof, who starred in Germany's 4-3 win.

RESULTS... SCORERS... TEAM LINE-UPS

MONDAY, OCT. 16

LEAGUE CUP

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SHREWSBURY (0) 2 (Atkins 2, 1 pen.) 3,087
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Shrewsbury: Wardle; King, Leonard, Turner, Griffin, Hayes, Chapman, Atkins, Lindsay, Biggins, Maguire.

FOURTH DIVISION

STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Bradd)
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 0 4,092
Stockport: Rogan; Thorpe, Rutter, Fogarty, Park, Edwards (Halford), Henson, Armstrong, Bradd, Prudham, Lee.
Bournemouth: Allen; Cunningham, Miller, Impey, Brown, R., Barton, Borthwick (Finnigan), Showers, Butler, M., Massey, Brown, K.

TUESDAY, OCT. 17

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BURY (0) 1 (Beamish pen.)
WALSALL (1) 1 (McDonough) 4,443
Bury: Forrest; Ritson, Kennedy, Lugg, Tucker, Hamstead, Stanton (Farrell), Wilson, Beamish, Gregory, Taylor.
Walsall: Kearns; Macken, Harrison, Sbragia, Serella, King, Birch, Waddington, Austin, Buckley, McDonough.

GILLINGHAM (3) 4 (Westwood, 2, Jolley, Hughes)
LINCOLN (1) 2 (Wigginton, Leigh) 5,763
Gillingham: Hillyard; Sharpe, Crabbe, Overton, Weatherley, Jolley, Nicholl, Hughes, Price, Westwood, Richardson.
Lincoln: Turner; Guest, Leigh, McCalliog, Wigginton, Cooper, Hubbard, Smith, Tynan, Cockerill, Harding.

ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Flynn)
BRENTFORD (0) 0 3,881
Rotherham: McAlister; Forrest, Flynn, Gwyther, Standcliffe, Green, Dawson, Phillips, Winn, Finney, Crawford.
Brentford: Bond; Salman, Tucker, Shrubbs, Allder, Booker, Carlton, Graham (J), Frost, McCulloch, Phillips.

SHEFF. WED. (1) 1 (Wylde)
OXFORD (1) 1 (Seacole) 9,431
Sheff. W: Cox; Blackhall, Grant, Smith, Pickering, Owen, Wylde, Porterfield, Leman, Lowey (Rushbury), Hornsby.
Oxford: Burton; Fogg, Watson, Bodell, McIntosh, Jeffrey, Duncan, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Hodgson.

SWANSEA (3) 3 (James, Baker 2)
MANSFIELD (1) 2 (Goodwin, Allen) 10,985
Swansea: Crudgington; Evans, Baker (Boersma), Smith, Stevenson, Charles, Moore, James, Waddle, Toshack, Callaghan.
Mansfield: Arnold; Bird (Curtis), Foster (B), Saxby (G), Saxby (M), McClelland, Miller, Moss, Goodwin, Phillips, Allen.

SWINDON (1) 3 (Bates 2, Carter)
PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (McEwan) 4,352
Swindon: Ogden; McLaughlin, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller, Carter, Williams (Gilchrist), Bates, Kamara.
Peterborough: Waugh; Hindley, Styles, Doyle, Green, Ross (Byatt), Slough, McEwan, Butlin, Anderson, Robson.

WATFORD (2) 2 (Bolton, Pollard)
CARLISLE (0) 1 (Joslyn)

Watford: Rankin; Stirk, Harrison, Booth, Bolton, Ellis, Pollard, Blissett, Jenkins, Joslyn, Downes.
Carlisle: Swinburne; Hoolickin, McCartney, McDonald; Tait, Parker, McVitie, Bonnyman, Kemp, Ludlam, Hamilton.

FOURTH DIVISION

ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Dungworth pen.)
BARNLEY (0) 0 3,622
Aldershot: Johnson; Edwards, Wooller, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Longhorn, Brodie, Shanahan, Dungworth, McGregor.
Barnley: Springett; Collins Chambers, Pugh, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Clarke, Riley, Millar, Peachey (Joicey).

DARLINGTON (1) 1 (Stone)
READING (1) 2 (Sanchez, Kearney) 1,821
Darlington: Burleigh; Nattress, Cochrane, Hague, Craig, Stone, Maitland, Paterson (Taylor), Seal, Crosson, Wann.
Reading: Death; Peters, White, Bowman, Hicks, Bennett, Earles, Hetzke, Kearney, Sanchez, Lewis.

DONCASTER (1) 2 (Laidlaw, Bentley)
PORTSMOUTH (2) 3 (Hemmerman 2, Denyer) 2,480
Doncaster: Peacock; Reed, Hemsley, Lally, Bradley, Taylor (Snodin), Habbins, Laidlaw, Owen, French, Bentley.
Portsmouth: Mellor; Ellis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Piper, Hemmerman, Lathan, Garwood, McIlwraith (Davey), Pullar.

GRIMSBY (2) 4 (Drinkell 2, Brolly, Young)
NORTHAMPTON (2) 3 (Christie, Froggatt, Bryant) 5,529
Grimsby: Batch; Mawer, Moore, Waters, Barker, Crombie, Ford, Liddell, Drinkell, Young, Brolly.
Northampton: Poole; Geidmintis, Mead, Woollett, Reilly, Bryant, Farrington, Williams, Froggatt, Saunders, Christie.

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Lawrence)
SCUNTHORPE (1) 1 (Kilmore) 2,980
Hartlepool: Platt; Smith, G., Smith, T., Lawrence, Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Goldthorpe (Guy), Newton, Crumplin, Houchen.
Scunthorpe: Crawford, Davy, Pilling, Oates, Deere, Czuczman, Grimes, Kilmore, Wigg, Kavanagh, Couch (Armstrong).

HUDDERSFIELD (2) 2 (Campbell 2, Hereford)
HEREFORD (1) 3 (Gould, Jones 2) 2,565
Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Gartland, Lillis, Topping, Hanvey, Gray, Hart, Campbell, Robins, Cowling.
Hereford: Hughes; Price, Burrows, Marshall, Layton, Emery, Stephens, Keeley, Jones, Gould, Spring.

NEWPORT 0
ROCHDALE 0 3,472
Newport: Plumley; Walden, Byrne, Thompson, Oakes (Elliott), Bruton, Lowndes, Wariner, Goddard, Sinclair, Vaughan.
Rochdale: Felgate; Hallows, Shookes, Hart, Scott, Scaife, Owen, Price, Hilditch (Hoy), Esser, O'Loughlin.

WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Cork)
CREWE (0) 1 (Coynne) 3,555
Wimbledon: Goddard; Bryant, Eames, Galliers, Galvin, Donaldson, Leslie, Denny (Cowley), Knowles, Cork, Parsons.
Crewe: Caswell; Bevan, Cheetham, Wilshaw, Bowles, Wilkinson (Rimmer), Davies, Purdie, Coyne, Nelson, Robertson.

YORK 0
TORQUAY 0 2,084
York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Stronach, Faulkner, Clements, Scott, Randall, Loggie, McDonald, Staniforth.
Torquay: Turner; Twitchin, Darke, Davies, Green, Dunne, Wilson, Lawrence, Coffill, Murphy, Parsons.

ANGLO-SCOTTISH CUP (Semi-Final)

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Wood pen.)
ST. MIRREN (0) 1 (Stark) 6,145

Oldham: McDonnell; Wood, Blair, Bell, Hicks, Hurst, Halom, Taylor, Young, Chapman, Gardner.

St. Mirren: Thomson; Young, Munro, Fitzpatrick, Dunlop, Copland, Hyslop, Stark, Bone, Abercrombie, McGarvey.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18

EUROPEAN CUP (Second Round, first-leg)

AEK ATHENS (0) 1 (Tassos pen.)
NOTTM. FOREST (2) 2 (McGovern, Birtles) 35,000
AEK: Stergioudas; Moussouris, Idzoglou (Damlanidas), Ravousis, Nikolaou, Viera, Tassos (Tsamis), Nikoloudis; Vajevic, Arizoglou, Mavros.
Nottm. F: Shilton; Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, Bowyer, Gemmill, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

RANGERS 0
PSV EINDHOVEN 0 44,000
Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Forsyth (A), Forsyth (T), Jackson (Miller), McDonald, McLean, Russell, Parlane (Cooper), Johnston, Smith.
PSV: Van Engelen; Deijkers, Stevens, Brandts, Portvliet, Lubse, Postuma, Willy Van der Kerkhof (Hooyer), Van Kraay, Krigh, Van der Kuylen (Jansen).

CUP-WINNERS' CUP (Second Round, first-leg)

FORTUNA DUSSELDORF (0) 3 (Günther 2, Zimmermann)
ABERDEEN (0) 0 10,500
Fortuna: Woyke; Brei, Zewe, Zimmermann, Baltes, Kohnen, Günther, Schmitz, Weikl, Allofs, Seel.
Aberdeen: Leighton; Kennedy, McLeish, Miller, McLelland, Rougvie, McMaster (Scanlon), Jarvie (Strachan), Sullivan, Archibald, Harper.

IPSWICH (0) 1 (Wark pen.)
SW INNSBRUCK (0) 0 20,394
Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Tibbott, Talbot, Hunter, Osman, Mills, Wark, Mariner (Geddis), Whymark, Woods.
SW Innsbruck: Freidl Koncilia; Zanon, Auer, Silko, Werner Schwarz (Gartner), Hanschitz, Scharman, Peter Koncilia, Oberacher, Hickersberger, Braschler (Wolfgang Schwarz).

U.E.F.A. CUP (Second Round, first-leg)

EVERTON (1) 2 (Latchford, King)
DUKLA (0) 1 (Macela) 32,857
Everton: Wood; Darracott (Robinson), Pejic, Lyons Wright, Ross, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh, Thomas.



Ipswich Town's John Wark scored from the spot to beat SW Innsbruck 1-0 in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Dukla: Stromsik; Barmos, Macela, Samek, Fiala, Rott, Peic (Bilsky), Novac, Stambacher, Nehoda, Gajdusek.

HAJDUK SPLIT (2) 2 (Cop, Djordjevic)
ARSENAL (1) 1 (Brady) 30,000
Hajduk: Cosic; Primorac, Krsticevic (Maricic), Jovanic, Peruzovic, Rozic, Zungul, Musinic, Cop (Vujovic), Djordjevic, Surjak.
Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Price, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Kosmina, Stapleton, Healey, Rix.

MAN. CITY (1) 4 (Hartford, Kidd 2, 1 pen Palmer)
STANDARD LIEGE (0) 0 27,450
Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Booth, Watson, Viljoen, (Keegan), Palmer, Bell, Kidd, Hartford, Barnes.
Liege: Preud'homme; Gerets, Renquin, Garot, Poel, Onal, Denier, Graf, Wellens, Sigurvinsson, de Matos.

SPORTING BRAGA (0) 0
W.B.A. (0) 2 (Regis 2) 20,000
Braga: Conhe Artur; Fernando, Serra, Cardoso, Paulo, Rocha, Jose Artur, Rodrigo, Chico Faria, Lito, Nelinho.
W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Cunningham, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A.), Regis, Cantello, Brown (T.).

STRASBOURG (1) 2 (Gemrich, Piasecki pen.)
HIBS (0) 0 25,000
Strasbourg: Dropsy; Marx (Deutschmann), Specht, Novi, Domenech, Jouve (Ehrlicher), Dugueperoux, Piasecki, Wagner, Tanter, Gemrich.
Hibs: McDonald; Duncan, Stewart, McNamara, Smith, Bremner, McLeod, Campbell, Rae, Hutchinson, Higgins.

THIRD DIVISION

CHESTER 0
PLYMOUTH 0 3,921
Chester: Millington; Nickeas, Walker, Storton, Delgado, Oakes, Jones, Livermore, Edwards, Mellor, Phillips.
Plymouth: Hodge; Trusson, Rogers, Silkman, Foster, Clarke, Brennan, Fear, Binney, Perrin, Johnson.

CHESTERFIELD (0) 2 (Burton, Walker)
COLCHESTER (0) 1 (Dyer) 4,394
Chesterfield: Letheran; Flavell, Burton, (Cammack), Hunter, Cottam, Prophet, Tart, Kowalski, Fern, Salmons, Walker.
Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Hodge, Wignall, Wright, Evans, Gough, Dyer, Bunkell, Allinson.

EXETER (3) 3 (Kellow 2, Bowker)
BLACKPOOL (0) 0 3,993
Exeter: O'Keefe; Templeman, Hore, Randall, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Kellow, Bowker, Delves, Hatch.
Blackpool: Ward; Gardner, Pashley, Thompson, Suddaby, McEwan, Weston, Ronson, Spence, Davidson, Wagstaffe (Wilson).

FOURTH DIVISION

BRADFORD C (0) 2 (McNiven, Cooke)
PORT VALE (0) 3 (Sutcliffe, Wright, Healy) 4,136
Bradford C: Smith; Reaney, Wood, Bates, Baines, Middleton, Podd (Szabo), Johnson, Cooke, McNiven, Hutchins.
Port Vale: Connaughton; Keenan, Bentley, Ridley, Sproson, Hawkins, Sutcliffe, Todd, Wright, Chamberlain (Tully), Healy.

WIGAN (1) 1 (Hinnigan)
HALIFAX (0) 0 5,216
Wigan: Brown; Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Moore (Houghton), Brownbill, Purdie.
Halifax: Leonard; Hutt, Loska, Smith, Burke, Dunleavy, Firth, Carroll, Bullock, Lawson, Johnson.

FRIDAY, OCT. 20

THIRD DIVISION

COLCHESTER (0) 1 (Evans)
SOUTHEND (1) 1 (Laverick) 5,831
Colchester: Walker; Cook, Packer, Hodge, Wignall, Rowles, Evans, Gough, Dyer, Bunkell, Wright, Allinson.
Southend: Cawston; Stead, Yates, Laverick, Cusack, Moody, Morris, Pountney, Polycarpou, Dudley, Fell (Hadley).



Frank Prince netted one of the goals in Bristol Rovers 2-1 home victory against Orient.

SATURDAY, OCT. 21

FIRST DIVISION

ARSENAL (0) 1 (Brady) 33,074
SOUTHAMPTON (0) 0
 Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Stead, Gattling, Young, Brady, Heeley, Stapleton, Walford, Rix.
 Southampton: Gennoe; Golac, Andruszewski, Williams, Nicholl, Waldron, Ball, Boyer, MacDougall, Holmes, Curran.

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0
ASTON VILLA (1) 1 (Gray) 36,145
 Birmingham: Montgomery; Broadhurst, Dennis, Tarantini, Gallagher, Pendrey, Page, Calderwood, Givens, Emmanuel, Fox.
 Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Williams, Evans (A), McNaught, Mortimer, Craig, Little, Gray, Gregory, Young.

BOLTON (1) 2 (Gowling, Worthington)
MAN. CITY (1) 2 (Palmer, Owen) 32,249
 Bolton: McDonagh; Nicholson, Burke, Greaves, Walsh, Allardyce, Morgan, Reid, Gowling, Worthington, Smith.
 Man. C: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Viljoen, Watson, Booth, Owen, Hartford, Palmer (Futcher, R.), Kidd, Barnes.

DERBY (1) 2 (Buckley, Duncan)
TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Taylor, McAllister) 26,181
 Derby: Middleton; Langan, Buckley, Daly, McCaffery, Moreland, Carter, Powell, Duncan, Bartlett (Nish), Clayton.
 Tottenham: Deanes; Naylor, McAllister, Holmes, Lacy, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles, Lee, Hoddle, Taylor.

LIVERPOOL (1) 2 (Johnson, Dalglish)
CHELSEA (0) 0 45,775
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Heighway, Johnson, Souness.
 Chelsea: Phillips; Wilkins (G), Stride, Stanley, Wicks, Harris, McKenzie, Wilkins (R) (Britton), Langley, Swain, Walker.

MAN. UTD. (0) 1 (Greenhoff J.)
BRISTOL C. (1) 3 (Mabbutt 3) 47,211
 Man. U: Roche; Albiston, Houston, McIlroy (Greenhoff, B), McQueen, Buchan, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, Macari, Grimes.
 Bristol C: Shaw; Sweeney, Gillies, Gow, Rodgers, Hunter, Tainton, Ritchie, Royle, Mann, Mabbutt.

MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Burns, Armstrong)
WOLVES (0) 0 19,389
 Middlesbrough: Stewart; Craggs, Bailey, Mahoney (Shearer), Boam, McAndrew, Cochran, Mills, Ashcroft, Burns, Armstrong.
 Wolves: Pierce; Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Brazier, McAlle, Hibbitt, Arkwright, Clarke, Eves, Daley.

NORWICH (0) 2 (Ryan, Peters)
LEEDS (1) 2 (Gray, F. Hawley) 19,981
 Norwich: Keelan; Bond, Davies, Ryan, Hoadley, Powell, Neighbour, Reeves, Downs, Mendham, Peters.
 Leeds: Harvey; Cherry, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Gray (E), Hankin, Hawley, Currie, Graham.

NOTTM FOREST (1) 1 (O'Neill)
IPSWICH (0) 0 28,911
 Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Needham, Burns, O'Neill, Bowyer, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.
 Ipswich: Cooper; Burley, Tibbott, Talbot, Butcher, Osman, Mills (Whymark), Wark, Brazil, Muhren, Woods.

Q.P.R. (0) 1 (Gillard)
EVERTON (1) 1 (Latchford) 21,171
 Q.P.R.: Parkes; Shanks, Gillard, Hollins, Howe, Busby, Eastoe, Francis, Harkouk, Bowles, McGee.
 Everton: Wood; Todd, Pejic, Lyons (Robinson), Wright, Nulty, King, Dobson, Latchford, Walsh, Thomas.

W.B.A. (3) 7 (Cantello, Cunningham 2, Regis 2, Brown T, Statham)
COVENTRY (0) 1 (Ferguson) 27,381
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Cunningham, Wile, Robertson, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello (Johnston), Brown (T).
 Coventry: Sealey; Coop, McDonald, Yorath, Holton (Green), Gillespie, Hutchison, Wallace, Ferguson, Powell, Hunt.

SECOND DIVISION

BRISTOL R (1) 2 (Prince, Staniforth)
ORIENT (0) 1 (Moore) 7,234
 Bristol R: Thomas; Aitken, Bater, Day, Taylor, Prince, Dennehy, Williams, Staniforth, Randall, Lyngoe.
 Orient: Jackson; Fisher, Roffey, Grealish, Gray, Went, Hughton, Moores, Mayo, Banjo, Chiedozie.

BURNLEY (0) 3 (Ingham 2, Brennan)
BRIGHTON (0) 0 10,271
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Nobla, Thomson, Rodaway, Hall, Ingham, Fletcher, Kindon, James.
 Brighton: Moseley; Tiler, Williams, Horton (Sayer), Rollings, Lawrenson, Ryan, Ward, Maybank, Clark, O'Sullivan.

CAMBRIDGE (0) 0
BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Hird) 5,240
 Cambridge: Webster; Howard, Smith, Stringer, Fallon, Leach, Cozens, Spriggs, Murray, Finney, Biley.
 Blackburn: Butcher; Hird, Bailey, Metcalfe, Keeley, Fazackerley, Brotherston, Craig, Radford, Fowler, Birchenall.

CARDIFF (1) 1 (Stevens)
LEICESTER (0) 0 8,791
 Cardiff: Healey; Pontin, Dwyer, Thomas, Roberts, Larmour, Grapes (Pethard), Buchanan, Stevens, Evans, Lewis.
 Leicester: Wallington; Whitworth, Rofe, May, Sims, Webb, Weller, Kember (Goodwin), Christie, Hughes, Henderson.

**CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.
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Fulham boss Bobby Campbell, tries to calm down the former England and Man. United star.

Preston manager Nobby Stiles races on to the pitch to protest to the ref about an offside decision in a recent game against Fulham at Craven Cottage.

Finally Nobby is persuaded to return to the dug-out... as the law moves in.

NOBBY

FISTS DON'T SOLVE ANYTHING
I told him



TRY USING YOUR HEAD
FOR ONCE!



BUT HE WOULDN'T
LISTEN, EH?



HE LISTENED ALL RIGHT-
HE BUTTED ME!



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DOWN:— (1) Selhurst. (2) Mediate. (3) Ebony. (4) Lea. (5) Sadden. (6) Or. (9) Rollers. (10) Les Sealey. (14) Sew. (15) Used. (17) As. (18) Two. (20) Point. (21) Rep. (24) Bly. (25) Lob. (27) Elm. (29) No.

Jumbled Name: NORMAN HUNTER.

WORLD CUP

The Argentina Story

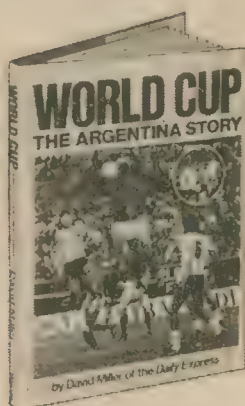
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The guy who keeps checking himself out in a shop window should check out a can of Cossack.



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minding his own business, and
he sees her coming towards him.
Immediately, looks at his
reflection in the shop window
and straightens his hair.
And then tries to look natural.
Well, if he'd sprayed a little
Cossack on his hair before
going out, he could have
forgotten his appearance and
trusted his Cossack to gently
hold his hair in place and keep
it looking shiny and natural.
Of course the shop window
routine is just as reliable
as the Cossack routine.
As long as there's a shop nearby.
And as long as you don't mind
letting her see you
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YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

A goalkeeper runs to play a ball outside the penalty-area, an attacker charges him fairly, gets possession, and scores. Should you penalise the attacker for charging the goalkeeper, and disallow the goal?



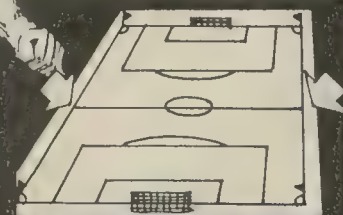
2

Are goal-nets an essential requirement of the Laws of the game?



3

Are flagposts opposite the halfway line on each side of the field of play essential?

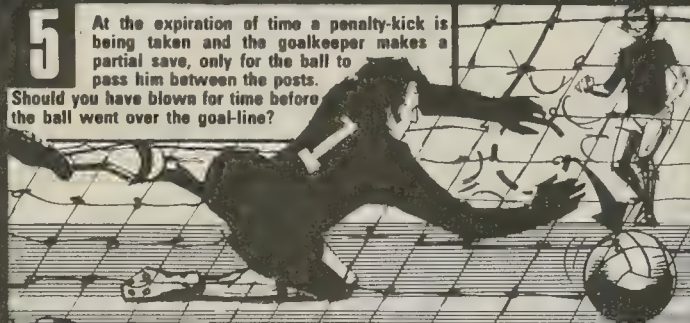


4

Can you take any action against a player who lights up a cigarette during a game?

5

At the expiration of time a penalty-kick is being taken and the goalkeeper makes a partial save, only for the ball to pass him between the posts. Should you have blown for time before the ball went over the goal-line?



ANSWERS

1. No. In my opinion we are not seeing in the Football League enough fair shoulder charging. One of the best players at this was Trevor Ford of Sunderland and Wales. 2. No. Goal-nets are optional, except in professional football where they are a must. There are many games in junior matches where I have not been really sure whether a goal has been scored because there are no nets. I pity referees in these minor leagues. 3. No. Before many matches I have refereed, the T.V. producer has asked me if he can take one of the flags away because his camera is directly opposite on the halfway line. I always agree to this request. 4. Yes. The player should be cautioned for ungentlemanly conduct. 5. No. A goal should be awarded.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



This week Chester striker Ian Edwards selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx

"Goal!!!!!!"

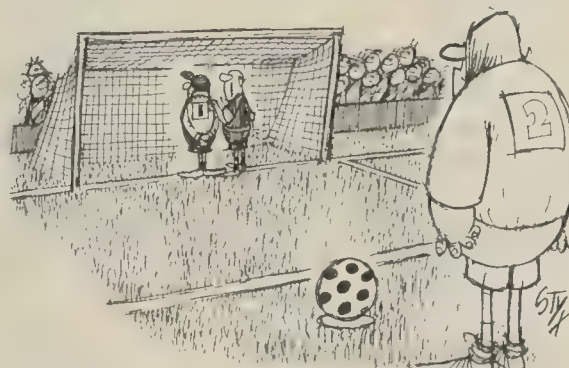


"That's what I like about our coach — always gives a demonstration first"



"Okay, you lot — no stampeding — form a queue"

"I do not consider your new superstar losing his voice constitutes the need for you spraying his Larynx every five minutes during play"



"Come on — don't be a spoilsport — it really was a foul, you know, old chap."

IN NEXT WEEK'S SHOOT

FEATURES

Previews of vital European Championship matches ... Portugal v. Scotland, Wales v. Turkey, Bulgaria v. Northern Ireland ... and the England v. Czechoslovakia friendly at Wembley.

Big Match Crosstalk — West Brom v. Aston Villa.

Jocks Stein's Number One Problem — Scotland's international goalkeepers.

Attendances and how they compare with last season.



Players from Wrexham, Aberdeen, Everton and Liverpool talk about being knocked out of Europe this season.

Tommy Docherty's signings.

And Glenn Hoddle (above, Spurs) + Davie Hayes (Morton) + Bob Bolder (Sheff. Wed.), Peter Anderson (Sheff. Utd.) + John Mitchell (Millwall).

Eight More Pages for Our "International Who's Who" Booklet.

COLOUR

Kevin Keegan (Hamburger SV and England) + European Championship action, Willie Johnston (West Brom) + West Ham team group + Focus on Keith Robson (Norwich) ... and Paddy Mulligan (Eire), Mick Mills (England), Tony Grealish (Eire), Ashley Grimes (Eire) featured in our Booklet.

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Why the goals have stopped coming for DIXIE McNEIL...



GOALS — they're simply Dixie McNeil's business. But what happened at the start of this season? It had suddenly come to a grinding halt. The problem? No goals for Dixie.

For Wrexham's much-travelled, well-known striker, it was a rare situation. For McNeil has been scoring goals for years in any part of the country where he's put down his bags. From Exeter to Northampton, from Lincoln to Hereford, McNeil has been among the goals.

But for the first six League matches his record read like this — played in six, scored in none. And the Wrexham forward-line was hit by the same problems that affected McNeil. Fellow strikers Graham Whittle (18 goals last season) scored just one goal from a penalty in his first six League games... and Bobby Shinton (16 goals last year) was in the same boat as McNeil (six games played, no goals).

Creditable

What made it even more surprising was after those six games, Wrexham, newcomers to the Second Division, were in a highly creditable third place in the Division; only a point behind leaders Stoke and Crystal Palace.

Was McNeil worried about the goal famine? "It's a joke really," he said. "If we can stay high in the table, I'll be prepared not to score any ALL SEASON — as long as we keep up there and keep doing well."

"But seriously, it's been a strange start to the season — one of the strangest I can ever remember being involved in."

"It didn't surprise us we started so well. We felt we were good enough to do fairly well in Division Two because we are a competent, confident side. We have a lot of good players, after all, who were much too good to be in the Third Division. But the biggest surprise has been the lack of goals, because that really was our forte last season. We scored 78 in the League last term and certainly didn't think we'd run out of goals this season."

"If we can cure this problem, it

just shows how well we can do. We reached third place in the Second Division without scoring a goal at home in our first three games. That was crazy."

"Obviously defences are a little tighter in the Second. They are quicker, too, and that means you have to have a little luck that we haven't been getting at all. You have to make your own, but the fact is we just didn't put away the chances we had in those early games. We all went close but missed out — and it was obvious we weren't as sharp as we had been last season."

"It was accentuated by the fact all three of us were going through the same lean spell. But they say every striker has one at some stage of the term so if we get ours over and finished with, we must be in with a great chance in the second half of the season."

McNeil was especially pleased with Wrexham's early away form in the League. He thought the performances at Fulham, Orient and Charlton were all pretty useful, sound displays. "We won at Fulham and also at Orient," he said. "We certainly didn't play as well at Charlton but it's always good when you don't do well in a match and slip away with a point."

"You can get away with more mistakes in the Third Division. Here, they're on to those errors much quicker so you can't afford to make them. Last season, all three strikers felt we'd had several goals where we just had to tap the ball into an empty net because of defensive mistakes and mix-ups. But in the first eight or so games in Division Two this season, we didn't get any 'tap-ins'. That indicated much better organised defences."

But despite the early problems, McNeil believes the goals will come — and Wrexham will do well this season. "The old knack hasn't left me," he says. "I'll be back among the goals soon. And I'd like to score some to help us consolidate our position."

"I reckon we can have a very satisfactory season — especially if we start scoring."

DEREK Spence, the Blackpool and Northern Ireland international striker, is more contented now than at any other time in his footballing career.

The reason? He's re-joined his old club and he's back playing in the position he loves best — and that's centre-forward.

"The last time I was at Bloomfield Road I couldn't wear the number nine shirt because Mickey Walsh and Bob Hatton were at the club and I had to play on the left-wing," he says. "So I'm very, very happy and it's a nice feeling."

Derek, 26, re-signed for The Seagulls in August for £30,000 after spending a season with Greek club Olympiakos. How did the move transpire?

ing out of position and I wanted to show the public I could play at centre-forward. And I think up to now I've fully justified myself.

"What made me go to Greece in the first place? At the time Blackpool had just missed promotion to the First Division by one point and naturally I was a little disappointed. I felt like a change; the opportunity arose and I took it."

Whilst Derek found the financial rewards much better and the people great, there were also disappointments for the former Oldham and Bury player.

"Northern Ireland team-boss, Danny Blanchflower, wanted me for every match," he says, "but Olympiakos wouldn't release me. They felt Greek football was more

Why DEREK SPENCE went back to BLACKPOOL



important than any other in the world.

"To be honest I didn't particularly like the football; there's a vast difference between the game in Greece and the game in this country. They're not very well organised and the set-up is nothing like we have in England. There are only four teams that really matter and the same clubs win the Championship year-in year-out."

"Even so, it was a great experience to go there and I enjoyed it, but it's always nice to return to English football."

"At Blackpool we've been playing well against the big teams — Ipswich and Manchester City in the League Cup. But we haven't really adapted ourselves to the Third Division — especially away from home where our results have been really bad. And I think the problem is when we travel there's not much atmosphere; there's not a big crowd."

"Some of the lads are still dejected and they haven't come to terms with it yet. But at home we're almost unbeatable and at the beginning of November we'd only dropped three points."

"At the moment I link up with Vic Davidson, who joined us from Motherwell."

"Vic is basically a midfielder player and he finds it hard to adjust. He admits he doesn't enjoy the role up-front, but he's doing it for the good of the club."

"There are problems, but Blackpool is geared for Second or even First Division football, and I don't think we'll be in the Third all that long."

"Once we've sorted one or two things out we'll be back up."

"There was unrest within the club," he explains, "and the President told all the players if they didn't want to stay, then they were free to negotiate with any other club."

"So I let a few people know I was keen to play in England again and Blackpool obviously heard. I received a phone call from them saying they'd put a bid in for me. I'd still kept my house in Blackpool, so I thought I might as well go there as anywhere else."

"Team-manager Bob Stokoe simply asked me if I would like to re-join Blackpool and I said I would. I felt I'd still got something to prove at Bloomfield Road, because beforehand I'd been play-

ONE of the biggest shocks of the season so far must be Fulham's early surge in the Second Division.

A lot of people rubbed their eyes in disbelief when they looked at the table and saw the team up there among the leaders.

Their surprise was easy to understand. For, in view of all the problems they have endured over the past couple of years, Fulham seemed more like candidates for relegation.

They had been split by a boardroom upheaval that saw people like Tommy Trinder ousted from power.

Right in the middle of that protracted row, builders McAlpines demanded payment for the new Riverside Stand at Craven Cottage.

They wanted the money — £274,000 — in one lump — a demand that could have put Fulham out of business.

George Best came — and went. But he left behind a row that went on and on. It was about who really owned him, Fulham or Los Angeles Aztecs — and it has not been resolved yet.

Alec Stock — one of the most respected figures in the game — left the club and is now a director at Queens Park Rangers.

Chief coach Bill Taylor quit too. He joined Manchester City as assistant-manager and is now a leading member of Ron Greenwood's England staff.

There was a massive turn-over of playing staff as well. In fact when this season kicked-off full-back Les Strong was the ONLY survivor from the Fulham team

FULHAM—FANTASTIC



Fulham boss Bobby Campbell (above) bought Chris Guthrie (right) for £65,000 from Swindon Town.



that lost to West Ham in the 1975 F.A. Cup Final.

Fulham were forced to sell players to clear off some debts and the task of re-shaping the club was given to Bobby Campbell, who replaced Stock as manager.

He had very little in the way of experience to call on and had to throw a lot of kids in at the deep end.

No wonder it was being suggested Fulham were heading in

only one direction — the Third Division.

But they have proved people wrong with their superb start to the season. But one man most definitely NOT surprised at the form they are showing is Campbell himself.

"I always knew my youngsters had the ability to do well. What they lacked was consistency — and that's a common fault with kids," he said.

"You can put skills into them. But you can't implant experience — they only get that from playing."

"The consistency any manager must have came after we had lost our first two matches. We then put together a run that sent us shooting up the table."

Campbell's job at Fulham hasn't been easy. He's had to work amid all sorts of rumours. At the height of them it seemed poor old Fulham could have gone out of business at any moment.

But he got on with it, quietly and unspectacularly. Leaving others to sort out the off-the-field problems Campbell set about producing a team to bring the fans back to Craven Cottage.

And he had to do that on a shoestring budget, for until very recently he could not afford to buy any players.

In fact in the summer he sold more vital members of his squad. Centre-half John Lacy went to Tottenham for £200,000 after refusing to sign a new contract, and striker John Mitchell — also in dispute — went to Millwall for £100,000.

He bought bustling striker Chris Guthrie, from Swindon, for £65,000, Kevin Lock for £60,000 from West Ham and gave Coventry £80,000 for midfield man John Beck.

They settled in quickly, alongside skipper Ray Evans and Eire international keeper Gerry Peyton.

These players, together with outstanding youngsters like Tony Gale, Richard Money and Terry Bullivant have given Fulham fans fresh hope for the future.

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'The news that shattered me...'

YOU know, it is a sad fact of football life that if you take up the game at professional level it's odds-on at least once in your career you will fall victim of serious injury.

It may be a vicious tackle or pure bad luck, but there aren't many guys kicking a ball for money who haven't missed the action because of some injury or another.

Kenny Dalglish is probably the exception who proves the rule... he still has to be ruled out by a serious injury since he signed for Liverpool from Celtic well over a year ago.

And incidentally, that reminds me I want to congratulate Kenny on taking over as acting skipper of Liverpool while Emlyn Hughes is out. That is further fodder to those of us who argue the man should be skipper of Scotland too, and goes some more way to me proving my point that Kenny is four times the player Kevin Keegan will ever be.

Match by match, this man Dalglish is making that £440,000 transfer look like the bargain of the century... which it was!

But I've digressed, I was talking about injury to the professional footballer... something I sadly know too much about.

Fractured skull

Apart from the usual bumps, scrapes and knocks that everyone gets every Saturday... I have been victim of an evil hat-trick.

Two of them you probably know about. First there was that fractured skull I suffered against Falkirk back in 1972 which could have ended my career before it was hardly off the ground.

Bad enough, but hardly in the class of the current farce of an ankle injury which has kept me from getting back into serious action for over a year now.

But it was the third problem, which I kept secret until the publication of my autobiography "Celtic: My Team" (Souvenir Press £3.95), which was by far the most serious of all.

It has been no secret for some time now I suffer from diabetes, but even I didn't realise how serious it was until the 1974 World Cup Finals when the illness might have ended my life, never mind my career.

It was only through playing in the World Cup in West Germany I found out I was a diabetes sufferer. So you can imagine how I felt when a specialist told me if Scotland had qualified for the last eight of the tournament I might well have slipped into a coma... and never come out of it.

You see, it all began on a pre-

World Cup tour to Norway when I couldn't stop drinking water, coke, orange, tea... anything I thought would slake the terrible thirst I had.

I know now this is one of the prime symptoms of a diabetic, but despite the fact I was losing weight at an alarming rate and looking really gaunt I never suspected anything was wrong.

During our opening match against Zaire I should have had the doctor investigate my terrible thirst. I put my heart and soul into that game and after the final whistle I was an age under the tap just drinking and drinking.



Even at half-time I was at it. And in the build-up to the next game — against Brazil, it was just as bad. I thought it might be the saunas and cut them down... but no, it was just as bad.

We drew with Brazil, but Danny McGrain was still drawing from the well. I began to suspect something was wrong, but as we headed for the final match against Yugoslavia I put the thirst and my loss of weight — now reaching the critical stage, out of mind.

The Slavs held us to a 1-1 draw and because of Brazil's 3-0 victory over Zaire, we were out. I cried that night, wondering how fate could deal us such an unkind blow, but little did I know I was the luckiest Scot in the world.

Since joining Celtic, no matter what, my weight always remains at 11st 4lbs... but when I weighed myself I had lost 1½ stone! Well, to cut a long story short I finally consulted my doctor when I got home and he broke the bad news... I had diabetes.

I was absolutely shattered... I couldn't believe I had such a serious illness. I was as fit as a fiddle and at that time knew nothing of a blood relative having also been a sufferer.

And I had never had a day's illness in my life. I hated the treatment. The needles and inconvenience alike, but I was quick to realise I should be glad to be still alive.

At a Glasgow hospital I was told one more match in Germany

would have finished me. I had gone over a month without treatment all the time using up more and more energy and becoming more and more dehydrated. Like every other serious complaint diabetes will strike when a person's power batteries are at their lowest level.

I was told if Scotland had won through to the next round and I had played without treatment, it might have been my last match. I learned that in circumstances like mine if the ailment develops unchecked then the diabetic is liable to slip into a coma — particularly if he is using energy at a high rate... and death itself is a distinct possibility.

Heartening

However, enough of the depressing stuff, let's bring a smile into this column! And what better than Scotland's heartening European Championship performance against Norway at Hampden.

That 3-2 victory received some stick, but Scotland played well and on pressure and chances should have won by a barrowload. Admittedly it wasn't 100 per cent satisfaction for Jock Stein, but our new manager did have a lot to smile about, because if nothing else it is good to know you have a side capable of making chances.

Are you listening Austria, Portugal and Belgium?

See you in two weeks...

Danny McGrain

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE



Kenny Dalglish (dark strip) has proved a bargain buy for Liverpool at £440,000.

'I'll play in any position'

FIVE years ago Hibs' Arthur Duncan lined up for the Scottish international team in the number 11 jersey. He kept out players such as Willie Johnston (West Brom) and Tommy Hutchison (Coventry City).

Now if Duncan plays again for the Scottish international side he is more likely to keep out players such as Danny McGrain (Celtic), Stuart Kennedy (Aberdeen) and Sandy Jardine (Rangers).

In an amazing transformation, Hibs manager Eddie Turnbull has taken the speedy left-wing talent of Duncan and converted him into a right-back! We have heard of players such as Malcolm MacDonald and Gerd Muller moving from full-back to the firing line, but to make the exchange in reverse is quite startling.

Duncan says logically: "When Mr. Turnbull put the new role to me just before our U.E.F.A. Cup-tie at Easter Road against Sweden's Norkopping I accepted it as a challenge. I'll play anywhere the boss tells me."

The Hibs fans gasped when they heard the team read out. There must be some mistake, they thought. It must be a tactical switch that will still see Duncan, wearing number two, operating in his usual role, they reasoned.

They were dead wrong! Duncan, the man who had terrorised right-backs and destroyed defences WAS playing in the full-back's position. And, displaying uncanny versatility, he was a hit in his new role.

It was a remarkable transition and a masterstroke from manager Turnbull. Hibs took a two goal lead against the Swedes, then lost two swift goals, but near the end Duncan again galloped into attack.

A short corner was worked on the right, Duncan was free to accept the pass, his cross was

perfect and the tall Tony Higgins, a vastly-improved player this season, rose above the hesitant defence to head into the net.

When Hibs sold John Brownlie to Newcastle this season, Des Bremner, the midfield man originally brought to Easter Road as a right-back from the Highland League, took over the number two shirt, but now Duncan has moved in.

He may not stay in that position, of course, but Duncan has shown an astonishing new zest of life in the right-back role. In the space of a week Celtic and Aberdeen lost their unbeaten records when they faced Hibs and again Duncan was immaculate. You could even say he is a stand-in stand-out!

It's true to say this is the team Eddie Turnbull built. He has bought goalkeeper Mike MacDonald, from Stoke, Ally MacLeod, from Southampton, Rikki Fleming, from Ayr United, and George Stewart, from Dundee. He also brought Hibs' Player of the Year Jackie McNamara in a swap deal from Celtic with Pat Stanton going to Parkhead.

Bobby Smith started his career in the midfield, then the attack before Turnbull moved him to left-back where his speed on the overlap continually opens up startled rearguards who have difficulty in getting back into position after an attack has broken up.

Hibs are threatening to have their best season in years. And Arthur Duncan, too, is likely to enjoy a good term. Whether it's dominating outside-lefts or pitting wits against right-backs we don't know, but we have the feeling Arthur Duncan might even be a success in goal.



THE MISFITS... the strugglers... the nowhere men. These are some of the tags that have been placed upon Willie Ormond's shell-shocked Hearts (right, dark shirts) this season as they bounce from one disaster to another in the Premier Division.

Life in this Division has been tough and rough for the Tynecastle men and, unless something drastic happens, they could be making a rapid return to the First Division just one year after promotion.

Ormond hit out at critics before the start of the season when they said his team didn't have enough strength-in-depth and enough quality players. Now, however, he must realise those words were bang on the button.

Hearts have reeled from game to game, rarely striking any consistent form and the danger signals are there for the Tynecastle men. They must improve swiftly before it is far too late. Already fans are

HEARTS

saying: "Who will go down with Hearts?"

They managed only one victory in their opening seven matches and obviously that is the sort of form that buys a one-way ticket to oblivion.

No one can fault Hearts for lack of fight. In players such as Drew Busby and Eamonn Bannon, a shining jewel among the debris, they have men who will work and battle for the entire 90 minutes in Hearts' cause. However, guts and spirit will not be sufficient to keep them in among the elite.

It's a shame really because Scottish soccer needs a successful Hearts side. They are a well supported team although it has been said they possess some of the most unruly fans in the country.

Hearts have a proud history and have given soccer such gifted and

If there were awards for professionalism Bobby Houston of Partick Thistle would surely be in the running for the title. The player is willing to play anywhere for the Firhill club and, in fact, he played just about everywhere apart from in goal!

But recently he added a new dimension to his game. The player had been linked with Leeds United and it seemed certain he would go to Elland Road in exchange for £70,000.

The deal appeared to be without snags. Thistle, after all, were prepared to swap Houston a year earlier for Ayr reserve player Davie McCulloch, now Clydebank, but that particular move fell through. Now Leeds were prepared to part with £70,000 and it looked as though the Firhill club would be rappy with that deal.

For one reason or another, the deal did not materialise. It could have demoralised Houston, who was looking forward to displaying

morning to go to my work with Rolls-Royce. I put in a long day there and after I'm finished I go to Firhill for a training stint in the afternoon.

"Sometimes I feel totally exhausted, but I know I have to go through the same routine the following day. That's life, I suppose."

Taking everything into consideration you can imagine Houston's feelings when he was told Leeds were prepared to splash out

Bobby waits for the call south

his many skills in the English arena.

He combines his part-time soccer with Thistle with a job that entails a lot of shift work and he says: "There are times when I hardly see my wife or kids. Honestly, I mean that."

"There are occasions when I leave the house about six in the



in trouble

talented players such as Dave Mackay, Alfie Conn Senior, Willie Bauld — the man crowned King of Tynecastle — Alex Young, who was such a success with Everton, and many, many others.

Now, watching Hearts struggle to put three passes together, it must be difficult for some fans to recognise just how much the mighty have fallen.

When Willie Ormond quit the Scottish team job two seasons ago he went to Tynecastle amid a fanfare of trumpets. The crowds welcomed him, they believed sincerely he could get them back on the right track again.

Certainly, Ormond helped bring the club up from the First Division, but it is patently obvious they were not, as the critics so rightly pointed out, equipped for the Premier.



South of the border a manager may be handed a cheque book and be told to go out and buy several players to strengthen the pool, but Ormond has no such luxury and he must look to his resources at Tynecastle. Alas, it doesn't look as though he has the weapons to fight off relegation.

Ormond received two players for the price of one when he allowed midfielder Donald Park to go to Partick Thistle in exchange for another midfielder John Craig, brother of Aston Villa's Tommy, and outside-left Dennis McQuade.

The fans were slightly baffled by the acquisition of McQuade as the club already have TWO recognised outside-lefts in Malcolm Robertson and Bobby Prentice!

Ormond will have to decide quickly whether or not he is building a team for the present or one for the future. Only a gigantic pools win or a miracle can do Hearts any good at the moment.

£70,000 for his services.

"I'm 26 now and I have to admit I thought the time was absolutely right for a move to England. I've got nothing against Thistle, who have been very good to me, but obviously I feel I can be a far better player with full-time training.

"Naturally, I was very disappointed when the transfer fell through. I don't know what went wrong with the talks. Anyway, I just had to accept it and get on with the game."

Houston didn't allow his personal disappointment to interfere with his soccer and in the next game he faced up to boyhood idols Celtic in a Premier Division match at Firhill.

A lot of critics voted him Man of the Match and it was an award he certainly deserved. He tore the left flank of the Parkhead rearguard to shreds and Celtic captain Andy Lynch was the most relieved player on the park when the referee finally blew his whistle for time-up.

"I thought I played fairly well that day," says Houston, but again demonstrating his undoubted professionalism he adds: "I would have preferred to have had an absolute stinker if only Thistle had won. That's the main thing, after all.

"There's no point in gaining individual glory while your club suffers. This is a TEAM game. If I could make a choice between Thistle winning and myself having a nightmare I would go for the side winning all the time."

In the game against Celtic, Thistle came so close to getting at least a draw. They went down 3-2, but in the last ten minutes three amazing saves from Peter Latchford defied efforts from Doug Somner, Jim Melrose and Donald Park.

That's the sort of unselfish professional touch that is swiftly becoming the hallmark of Houston, the player who waits and wonders if he will ever get the opportunity to shine among the big guns in the English First Division.

Sceptics said he wouldn't be 'hard' enough for Rangers

— BUT GORDON GOES IN FIGHTING



It takes an exceptional goalscorer to beat an exceptional goalkeeper such as Italy's World Cup captain Dino Zoff with a 16-yard header.

However, that's just what Rangers' silky smooth attacker Gordon Smith (number 11) did this season when he sent Italian Champions Juventus reeling out of the European Cup in the First Round.

It was a night of high drama at Ibrox as Rangers and Juventus, packed with World Cup aristocrats such as Roberto Bettega, Franco Causio, Marco Tardelli, Antonio Cabrini and, of course Zoff, were deadlocked at 1-1 on aggregate.

The game had reached frantic proportions when Francesco Morino fouled Derek Johnstone yet again about 30-yards out on the right. Tommy McLean flighted the free-kick to perfection and up went the Rangers big men. Colin Jackson and Derek Parlane were there as were three Juventus defenders, but the man who got the vital touch was Smith who sent a whiplash header across Zoff and low into the net at the left-hand corner.

"I could have jumped over the stand when I saw that one going in," says Smith. "Do you know I hadn't even scored one goal in six League games? I was beginning to

wonder what had happened to my goal touch."

But after that goal Smith's confidence took a tremendous boost and three days later he opened his League account with a double against hapless Motherwell at Ibrox.

Smith is now bang on form again and it should be an intriguing and interesting battle between the former Kilmarnock star, who cost Rangers a bargain £65,000 last season, and Derek Johnstone to see who scores the most goals this season. Big Derek managed nine more than Smith last term as he hammered 39 into rivals' nets.

The articulate Smith, of course, doesn't worry too much about who scores Rangers' goals so long as they keep winning. His unselfish running is part of the Ibrox system today and his work-rate is a feature of his play as well as his deadly finishing in front of goal.

However, Smith hasn't always been famous for his fighting spirit. The story goes a lot of people thought he wouldn't be hard enough for Rangers... that he just wouldn't fit into their pattern.

Now, though, Smith goes in where the brave should be in search of goals and one Premier Division defender, not well known for pulling out of a tackle, told SHOOT: "When we played Ran-

gers this season I hit Smith early on just to let him know I was around.

"It made absolutely no difference to him. I was amazed! He took the hard tackles and he gave me some back himself and we had a right old afternoon of it. They could have given us a ball to play with ourselves!"

Rangers manager John Greig says: "You rarely hear Gordon Smith moaning. He is a good professional and he is one of the most skilful players in Scotland.

"I suppose because he had so much talent that a lot of people thought of him as just being a ball artist, but he realises there is very little you can do unless you have the ball at your feet and he is not afraid to go and win tackles.

"He is improving with every season. Look at his form last term. He started it in the First Division with Kilmarnock who had just been relegated, but he adjusted well to life at Ibrox after his transfer and played a major role in helping the club to all three domestic honours.

"In fact, it was Gordon, of course, who scored our winning goal in the League Cup Final against Celtic. He took that one well, reacting in a tight situation, but after the game he played it all down and said he couldn't miss.

"Yes, that's my sort of player."



SOME players never settle into life with a new club. Others take a year or two to adjust to the different style and colleagues. Others, the unlucky ones, get nasty, untimely injuries which hold up their period of adjustment to life with a new club.

Tommy Craig, signed from New-

castle United by Aston Villa last season, slots exactly into the third category. He joined Villa after an unhappy final year at the troubled Tyneside club. He was glad to get away and hopeful of things to come with the top Midlands club.

But then, disaster struck. Craig joined in January, 1978, but by late October of the same year, had played only 12 first team games. The trouble was Craig injured a knee in training. It was diagnosed as a "roughening of the kneebone" — an injury which needed an operation to put it right. Nothing serious was anticipated because in footballing circles, the injury is not thought to be very bad. But Craig found the minor injury turned into a monster.

He says: "In the end, it seemed to take longer to clear up than a cartilage would have done. It was

basically a scrape of the kneebone but it didn't want to heal for a long time. I was out for six months and when you've just joined a new club, that's the last thing you want to happen.

"It was terribly frustrating. I couldn't really settle in when I wasn't playing football so I was stuck around the fringes, just being at the club but not really settling. It was an awful situation."

It wasn't until October Craig got back into regular first team action. Not surprisingly, he said: "I don't

club — and Tommy Craig. I'm 27 now and regard the next few seasons as my best. I believe Villa's squad is now outstanding — so young yet so full of talent."

Craig played 122 games for Newcastle including the 1976 League Cup Final which Newcastle lost 1-2 to Manchester City. He had been regarded as one of the most solid, stable men at St. James' Park. So why the move?

"I said a lot about the club at the time," he says. "I don't want to go into all that again. I was happy to

A TOUGH TIME FOR TOMMY

feel I have really settled in properly yet. It has certainly taken me longer than I had hoped it would. I tried to be philosophical because, after all, these things are sent to try us. But it was a most frustrating time.

"I don't feel I've justified the move yet. I have much to prove to the Villa fans and I feel I'm really only starting to get going. Earlier this season, I played a few games. But I wasn't match fit and you soon get found out. I was taking a couple of seconds longer than usual to decide what to do and therefore, I was getting caught in possession quite often. That was unusual for me but it was because I wasn't truly match fit."

"It's been a difficult time for both Aston Villa and myself. But there can be no doubt the next few years could be great ones for the

leave in the end although I was disappointed to move from the area. There were problems at the club and it was beneficial for both Newcastle United and Tommy Craig that I should leave.

"Ron Saunders had tried to sign me twice before but even so, it was a complete surprise when the move to Villa came. I think this club has an outstanding chance of honours in the next five years. Last term they didn't do so well as the one before. But everyone says they learned a tremendous amount and, with so many youngsters in the squad, they can only get better."

"I would like to win a trophy with Villa this time. If we can get the injuries put right, I think we could do it. We are certainly capable of beating almost anyone in the country!"



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BIG MATCH

CROSSTALK

LIVERPOOL v MANCHESTER CITY
Saturday, 18th November



Graeme Souness is on hand to score for Liverpool in their 4-1 win at Manchester City earlier this season.

CHANNON: Hello, Phil. Memories of the last meeting between Manchester City and Liverpool on August 26th are not too happy as far as City are concerned, because you beat us 4-1 on our own ground. But that wasn't a fair reflection of the game — we didn't take our chances and this time I think it will be different.

THOMPSON: Yes, that's true. The score could have been 4-4, or 5-4 to one of us, as our defence made mistakes and was lucky to get away without being severely punished. I hope we've learned from that, and I know we'll have to keep a close watch on you, Mike, and also your partner Brian Kidd. In fact, City are noted for their attacking power and this is going to be a terribly tough match.

CHANNON: Well, what can I say about Liverpool that hasn't already been said? We are aware your whole team moves forward together, and you haven't any weak links — but we aren't frightened of Liverpool. We will treat you with respect, at the same time knowing we consider ourselves a team of good professionals.

THOMPSON: I don't look for any shirking by anyone in this game. There will be hard tackling, but no "needle," and I fancy there will be less goals scored at Anfield than there was at Maine Road. A scoreline of something like 2-1 is possible.

CHANNON: I feel the score is impossible to predict, and anything might happen. It could be



'This time it will be different' —
MIKE CHANNON,
Man. City

0-0, or there could be goals, though not as many as four or five. In the last game, two of your goals came from half-chances, and we'll be out to prevent it happening again — no sour grapes, though — you played well at Maine Road.

THOMPSON: Although the game is at Anfield, you will be able to count on support from your fans — oddly enough, City supporters seem to give their team more



'It's going to be a tough match' —
PHIL THOMPSON,
Liverpool

encouragement away from home, at least, that's my impression. Still, we must be favourites on our own ground.

CHANNON: The side who can find its rhythm early on and perhaps snatch a quick goal stands a good chance to finish up winners. And the City side at the moment has plenty of confidence — the big thing is to put our game together on the day.

THOMPSON: There is nothing wrong with our morale, and the 1-0 defeat at the hands of Everton is something we have put behind us. Once a game is over, we put it out of our minds, and at present all our thoughts are concentrated on the match with Manchester City.

CHANNON: I think City and Liverpool are alike in one respect — that of attitude. We believe in being positive in our approach, and because of this I am certain the game will be full of movement. Neither team will be content to sit back and wait for things to happen.

THOMPSON: That is a mistake we couldn't afford to let develop. In the previous meeting, Dave Watson was out of your team, and with all respect to your defence, I'm sure it will be stronger if Dave plays at Anfield. If he does, we'll have to find ways of getting around him.

CHANNON: We'll be planning along similar lines, how to deal with Phil Thompson and company. Neither of us expects an easy afternoon ahead of him, and I'm just hoping it turns out to be a match worth seeing.

THOMPSON: If there is one thing I'm sure about, it is the spectators are going to be provided with plenty of entertainment. The make-up of the two sides points to it, and somehow I can't see the fans being disappointed, Mike.

CHANNON: Nor can I, Phil. Here's to a great game.

FOCUS ON

MIKE FLANAGAN

Charlton

FULL NAME: Michael Anthony Flanagan
BIRTHPLACE: Ilford, Essex
BIRTHDATE: 9th November, 1952
HEIGHT: 5ft. 10ins.
WEIGHT: 12st. 2lbs.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Tottenham, and I played for New England Tea Men in the States during the summer
CHILDREN: Son Adam, one-year-old in September
CAR: Toyota Celica GT. (Award for "Most Valuable Player in America")
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Kevin Keegan
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAMS: Liverpool and New England Tea Men
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: They are all tough
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Cosmos v. New England Tea Men. We won
BIGGEST THRILL: Scoring in the above game
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not being eligible for Eire's World Cup squad
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: West Germany
FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak and chips
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Playing tennis and being with my family
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Injuries
FAVOURITE T.V. SHOWS: The Two Ronnies and The Sweeney
FAVOURITE SINGERS: George Benson and Stevie Wonder
FAVOURITE ACTORS: Steve McQueen and Clint Eastwood
BEST FRIEND: I have many close friends
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Mr McNamara, old family friend who spent a lot of time with me when I was young; Pat Welton, Theo Foley and Andy Nelson
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Travelling home on coaches
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: England Youth and 'B' caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To win full England honours
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To be happy in my profession
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? A Formula One racing driver
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Pele

M.A. Flanagan

SHOOT!